

TRANSLATION BY JENNIFER J. WARD  
ADAPTATION BY ALEXANDRA E. SWANSON  
YKS SERVICES LLC/SKY JAPAN, INC

 MangaBox



WAS  
THE  
NOTICE  
THAT WE  
GOT...

WRONG,  
THEN?

# Love and Lies

BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI

He doesn't want to call it a  
mistake...even if theirs is only an  
arranged partnership.





AND  
ALSO  
...



I FELT  
LIKE  
I HAD  
JUST  
HALLUCI-  
NATED  
IT...

TAKASAKI-  
SAN DIDN'T  
REACT TO  
IT AT ALL,  
EITHER...

I  
WASN'T  
TRYING  
TO HIDE  
ANY-  
THING!

I REALLY  
THOUGHT  
THAT MAYBE  
I HAD  
JUST BEEN  
SEEING  
THINGS...



...



YOU'RE MY  
ARRANGED  
PARTNER...

SO I  
DIDN'T  
KNOW  
...

WHAT  
TO  
SAY TO  
YOU.



IS  
THE  
NOTICE  
THAT WE  
GOT...

WRONG,  
THEN?



NO...

OH...  
NO!

IT'S  
NOT!



OH... I  
SEE...



YAJIMA-  
SAN SAID  
THAT...

MY  
PART-  
NER  
IS  
YOU.



LIM  
...





Y-YEAH...  
WE CAN  
TALK  
ABOUT  
THAT  
LATER...

I MEAN,  
I THINK  
THERE'S  
MORE  
IMPORTANT  
MATTERS  
AT HAND!

I-IT'S  
OKAY!  
WE CAN  
LEAVE  
THAT  
ASIDE  
FOR  
NOW...

I STILL  
HAVEN'T  
APOLO-  
GIZED  
PROPER-  
LY...

OH...AND  
SORRY!  
I'VE JUST  
SORT OF  
BEEN  
TALKING  
TO YOU  
LIKE  
NORMAL



YEAH...  
I'LL TRY  
THAT.

COULDN'T  
YOU  
INDIRECTLY  
GET HER  
NUMBER  
FROM  
TAKASAKI-  
SAN?



I  
THINK  
SO...

ANY-  
WAY!  
  
SHE'S  
FRIENDS  
WITH  
MISAKI,  
RIGHT  
?







**NEXT TIME: REUNION OF THE FOUR**




# Love and Lies

BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI

Lilina still  
doesn't know who  
Juliet really is...  
Her eyes  
sparkle like  
diamonds!



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LILI-  
CHAN!

Y-YOU  
SURE  
WORKED  
HARD ON  
A LOT OF  
LITTLE  
DETAILS

YEAH, I  
DID WORK  
ON THE  
DETAILS!

SMUG

...AND A  
LOT OF  
THINGS  
BESIDES!



MISAKI!

SO YOU  
CAME!  
THANK  
YOU!



BUSY BUSY!

MY  
DRAMA  
CLUB  
FRIEND  
WAS  
SINGING  
YOUR  
PRAISES  
...

OF  
COURSE  
I'D COME!  
THE PLAY  
WAS  
AMAZ-  
ING...

I WAS  
MOVED!



...OH,  
I-I WAS WATCH-  
ING, TOO...

IT WAS GREAT.



THANK  
YOU!

...SHE  
REALLY  
LIKED  
IT!



OH, WELL,  
YOU'RE  
ALWAYS  
DAZZLING,  
THOUGH

LIM...  
YOU  
WERE  
REALLY  
BEAUTI-  
FUL!  
I WAS  
STAR-  
TLED!

YOU  
WERE  
SO DAZ-  
ZLING, I  
HARDLY  
RECOG-  
NIZED  
YOU!



YEAH,  
I COULD  
SEE YOU  
FROM  
THE  
STAGE.



GASP



I DON'T  
KNOW, IT  
WAS LIKE,  
YOU WERE  
REALLY  
PRETTY,  
BUT ALSO...

LIKE...  
EPHEM-  
ERAL...











↑ NEJI

NOTE: ↑ THIS IS YUUSUKE  
NISAKA-SAN.

# Love and Lies

BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI

Whose voice is it that brings  
such an expression of horror to  
Nisaka's pretty face?







I-I'M NOT  
GOING TO  
LAUGH!  
YOU WERE  
REALLY  
PRETTY,  
MISAKA!

I  
COULDN'T  
TAKE MY  
EYES OFF  
YOU!



HUH  
?!

YEAH,  
YEAH.

IF  
YOU'RE  
GONNA  
LAUGH,  
THEN  
LAUGH.



...

THAT  
WAS THE  
JULIET  
I WAS  
LOOKING  
FORWARD  
TO SEE-  
ING!

I'M NOT  
JUST  
TRYING TO  
BE NICE!  
REALLY,  
YOUR  
JULIET  
WAS  
GREAT!

WHAT?  
UH, YOU  
DON'T  
HAVE TO  
GO THAT  
FAR...



AH!

UGH!

GYAHA  
HAHA  
HAHA  
HAHA!













YOU DON'T HAVE TO BRING ANY MONEY\* AND IT'LL JUST BE LIKE YOU COME TO HAVE DINNER WITH US.

WE WERE JUST TALKING ABOUT WHAT A WASTE IT WOULD BE.

I CAN'T CANCEL THE CATERING, AND THEY'RE STILL GOING TO CHARGE FOR EVERYTHING ANYWAY, SO...

MY COUSIN'S FAMILY WASN'T ABLE TO COME...

NEXT SUNDAY, YUICHI OVER THERE IS GETTING MARRIED.



I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE GIRLS.

I CAN COME, BUT...

...



HOW ABOUT IT?

IT'LL BE OUR THANKS FOR YOU INVITING YUUSUKE OUT CAMPING WITH YOU.

\*TYPICALLY FOR JAPANESE WEDDINGS, THE GUESTS BRING CASH TO PAY FOR THE WEDDING, USUALLY AT LEAST \$50-100 USD, PAYING MORE THE CLOSER YOU ARE TO THE BRIDE AND GROOM.



A WEDDING?! I'VE NEVER BEEN TO ONE!



IS IT REALLY OKAY FOR US TO BE GOING?









NEXT TIME: KATOU-SAN WORRIES OVER NOTHING

I'M STILL SUCH A CHILD.  
I WISH I WAS GROWN ENOUGH  
TO HANDLE THIS.



BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI

# Love and Lies

This is Ayano Katou. She's in Neji's class. She's panting like she just ran a marathon, but as for the real reason, you'll have to read on to find out.





AND...  
THANKS  
FOR  
COMING  
TODAY.



NO,  
THANK  
YOU FOR  
INVITING  
ME.

WELL...  
GOOD  
NIGHT,  
THEN.









**NOTICE!**

**MY  
GOVERN-  
MENT...**



WHEN  
I CALLED  
HIS  
HOME,  
WE WERE  
BOTH  
AVAIL-  
ABLE,  
SO I  
MET  
HIM  
THAT  
DAY.

WHAT  
DO I  
DO,  
MISA-  
KI?!

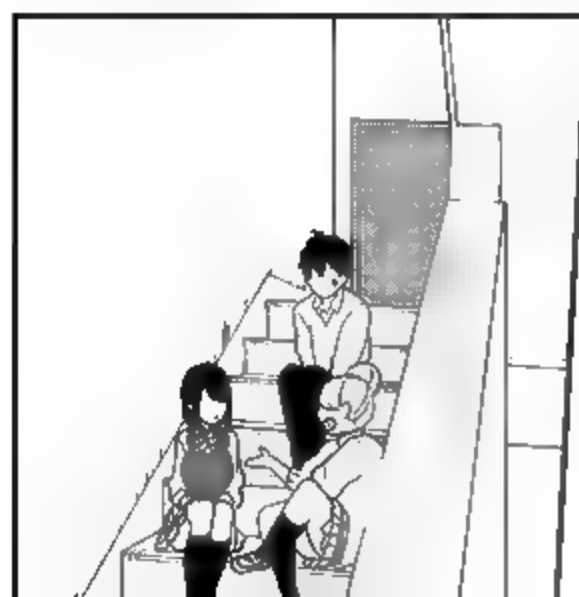


YEAH,  
SORRY.  
I WAS  
SERIOUSLY  
FEELING  
OVER-  
WHELMED.

SO  
...

OH! IS  
THAT WHY  
YOU DIDN'T  
REPLY WHEN  
I SENT YOU  
THAT HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY  
MESSAGE?

HUH?  
?



TELL ME  
ABOUT  
YOURS!

HUH?  
?

HUH?  
OH,  
YEAH.

**OH!**

WAIT,  
YOU'VE  
GOTTEN YOUR  
NOTICE TOO,  
HAVEN'T YOU,  
NEJIMA?!





FOR OUR PARENTS' GENERATION, IT WAS 70-80% YUKARI COUPLES.

OH, REALLY?

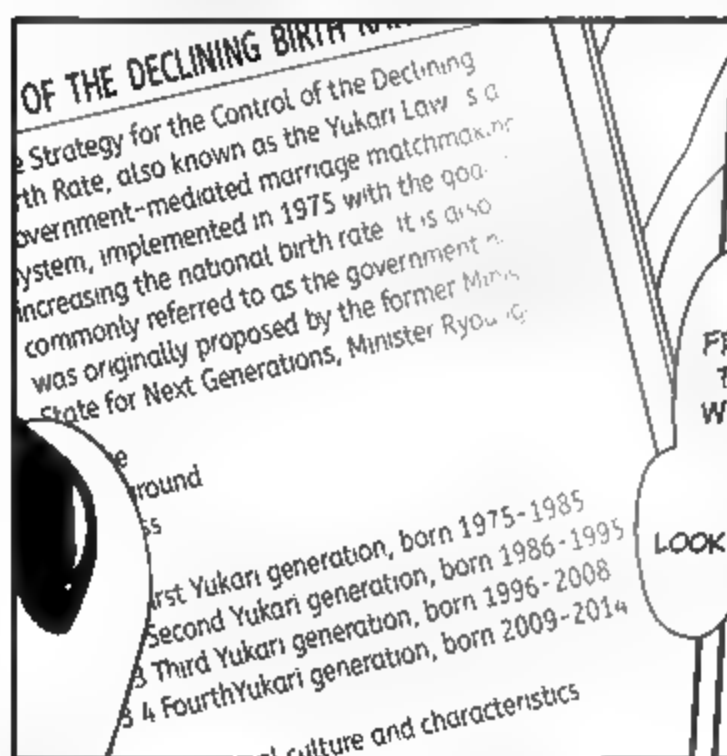
HOW MANY KIDS IN OUR CLASS WERE FROM NON-YUKARI COUPLES AGAIN?



TWENTY-NINE OF THEM ARE ARRANGED COUPLES.

I LOOKED UP A BUNCH OF STUFF YESTERDAY...

AND APPARENTLY, OUT OF EVERY THIRTY MARRIAGES...



OF THE DECLINING BIRTH RATE  
Strategy for the Control of the Declining Birth Rate, also known as the Yukari Law is a government-mediated marriage matchmaking system, implemented in 1975 with the goal of increasing the national birth rate. It is also commonly referred to as the government matchmaker. It was originally proposed by the former Minister of State for Next Generations, Minister Ryōko.

First Yukari generation, born 1975-1985  
Second Yukari generation, born 1986-1995  
Third Yukari generation, born 1996-2008  
Fourth Yukari generation, born 2009-2014  
Culture and characteristics



AND WHERE DID YOU GET THAT INFO?

SO BY HIGH SCHOOL, A LOT OF PEOPLE HIDE IT. WHO KNOWS?

I DON'T KNOW. PEOPLE WILL JUDGE YOU FOR THAT STUFF...

FROM THE WIKI.

LOOK.



OH, NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I THINK I FILLED OUT SOME FORMS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

OH, REALLY?

I HEAR IF YOU DO, THERE'S A PENALTY?

YOU CAN'T JUST CANCEL ON SOMETHING YOU'VE APPLIED FOR!

OBLIGATORY THING. EVERYONE HAS TO APPLY FOR IT...

FIRST OF ALL, THE GOVERNMENT NOTICE IS NOT AN...



THAT CAME  
OUT ON  
TV, AND IT  
TOTALLY  
EXPLODED  
AFTERWARD.

MOST OF  
THEM WERE  
CHILDREN OF  
ARRANGED  
COUPLES.

HEALTHIER,  
SMARTER,  
AND HAD  
SPECIAL  
ATHLETIC  
ABILITIES,  
COMPARED  
TO OTHER  
KIDS...

A FEW  
YEARS  
INTO IT,  
THEY DID  
THIS  
INVESTI-  
GATION  
INTO  
CHILDREN  
WHO WERE  
...

AT  
FIRST,  
THERE  
WERENT  
MANY  
APPLI-  
CANTS,  
BUT...

IT WAS  
ORIGINALLY  
LIKE A  
HIGH-TECH  
MATCHMAKING  
SERVICE THE  
GOVERNMENT  
PROVIDED...

LIKE A  
MARRIAGE  
CONSULTATION  
SESSION  
PEOPLE ONLY  
REGISTERED  
FOR IF THEY  
WERE INTER-  
ESTED.

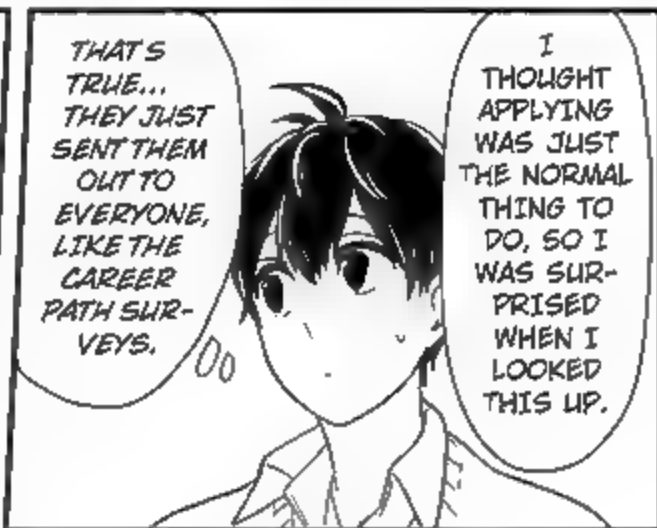


EVERY-  
ONE  
LIKES  
THOSE  
STORIES,  
HUH?

WELL,  
THOSE  
ARE  
JUST  
URBAN  
LEG-  
ENDS.

WITH  
FOR-  
EIGN  
PEOPLE,  
OR  
SPECIAL  
NOTICES  
FOR  
GIVING  
BIRTH  
TO GE-  
NIUSES,  
BUT...

THERE  
WERE  
BLOGS  
THAT SAID  
THERE'S  
SECRET  
NOTICES  
FOR  
MATCH-  
ING  
PEOPLE  
UP..



THAT'S  
TRUE...  
THEY JUST  
SENT THEM  
OUT TO  
EVERYONE,  
LIKE THE  
CAREER  
PATH SUR-  
VEYS.

I  
THOUGHT  
APPLYING  
WAS JUST  
THE NORMAL  
THING TO  
DO, SO I  
WAS SUR-  
PRISED  
WHEN I  
LOOKED  
THIS UP.





BUT MY PARENTS MARRIED BECAUSE OF THE NOTICE, TOO...

AND I THOUGHT THAT WAS JUST THE WAY IT WAS, BUT...

FINALLY MEETING MY PARTNER AND FINDING OUT WHAT HE'S REALLY LIKE ...

MAKES ME WISH I'D NEVER DONE IT.

AGH...

IT'S LIKE, I'M KINDA GLAD THEY HAVE IT, BUT ALSO KINDA NOT.



MY LIFE REALLY IS OVER...

ALL OVER...

AGH...



IT'D MAKE IT HARD TO FIND SOMEONE

BUT MOST MARRIAGES ARE YUKARI MARRIAGES, RIGHT?

I MEAN, EVEN IF YOU FALL FOR SOMEONE, THEY'VE ALREADY GOT A NOTICE.

!



A FIRST IMPRESSION IS JUST A FIRST IMPRESSION...

Y-YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO PESSIMISTIC...



U-UH, THERE WASN'T ANY ELECTRICITY... THOUGH MY HEART WAS POUNDING...

WE'RE JUST A REALLY MIS-MATCHED COUPLE, SO...

IT WAS WRITTEN IN ONE OF THE THREADS !!

LIKE THE MOMENT YOUR EYES MEET, IT FEELS LIKE A JOLT TO YOUR HEART!

AND STUFF!



OH YEAH, HEJHHA! HOW WAS YOURS?!

WHEN YOU MET HER...

WAS IT LIKE, "THIS IS THE ONE"?! LIKE AN ELECTRIC SHOCK?!

"THE ONE" ?!



HMM, I GUESS, BUT...

WHY ARE YOU ASKING ME, ANYWAY?

I DON'T THINK I CAN REALLY TELL YOU ANYTHING USEFUL.



HOW HARD WAS IT POUNDING ?!

POUNDING LIKE YOU SAW A CORPSE ON THE STREET?!

UH, I DUNNO ABOUT THAT COMPARISON...



NEJI IS SELLING YOU OUT, NISAKA.

NEXT TIME: TWO STRAWBERRY DAIFUKU



BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI

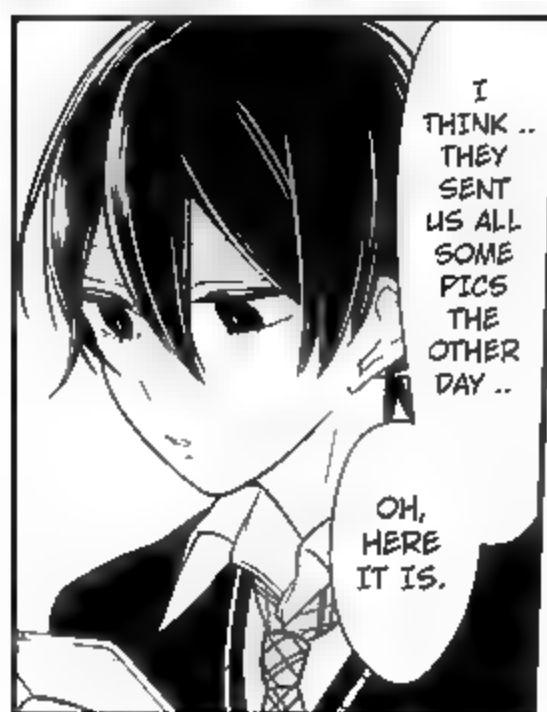
# Love and Lies

Nisaka refuses to acquiesce,  
and Katou-san's sharp eyes flash.

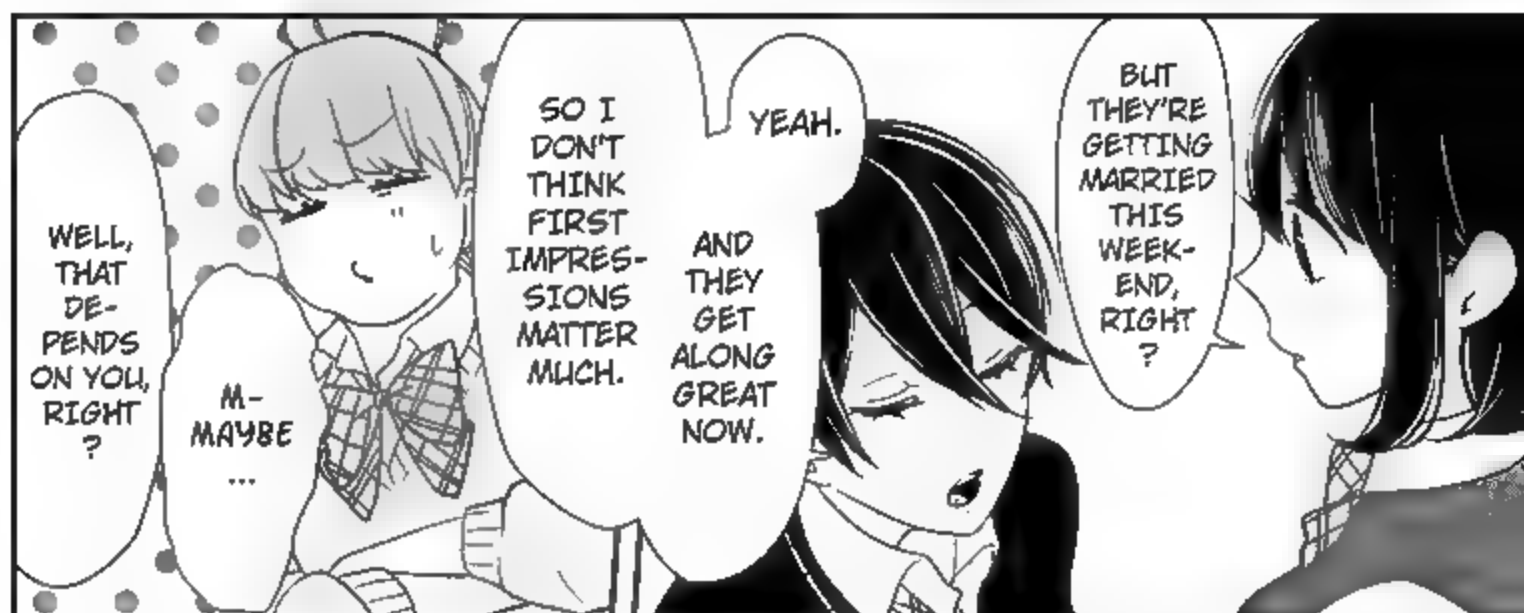
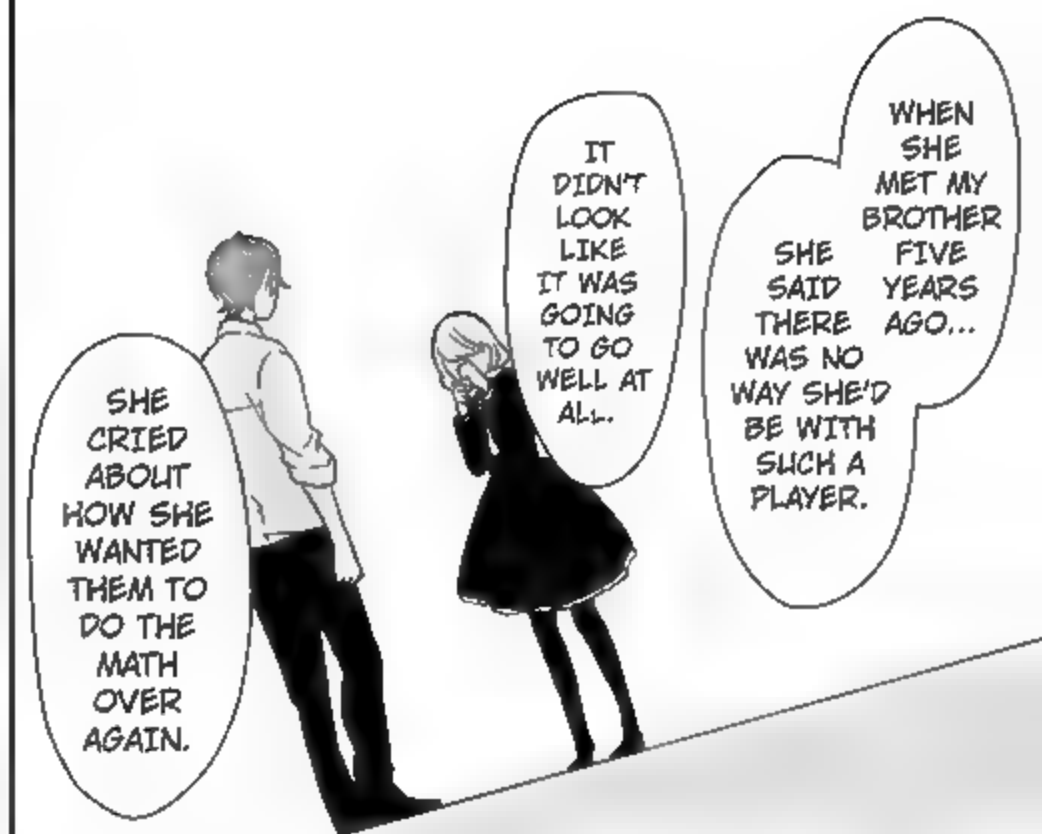
Stuck between a rock and a hard place,  
how will Neji break out out this situation?

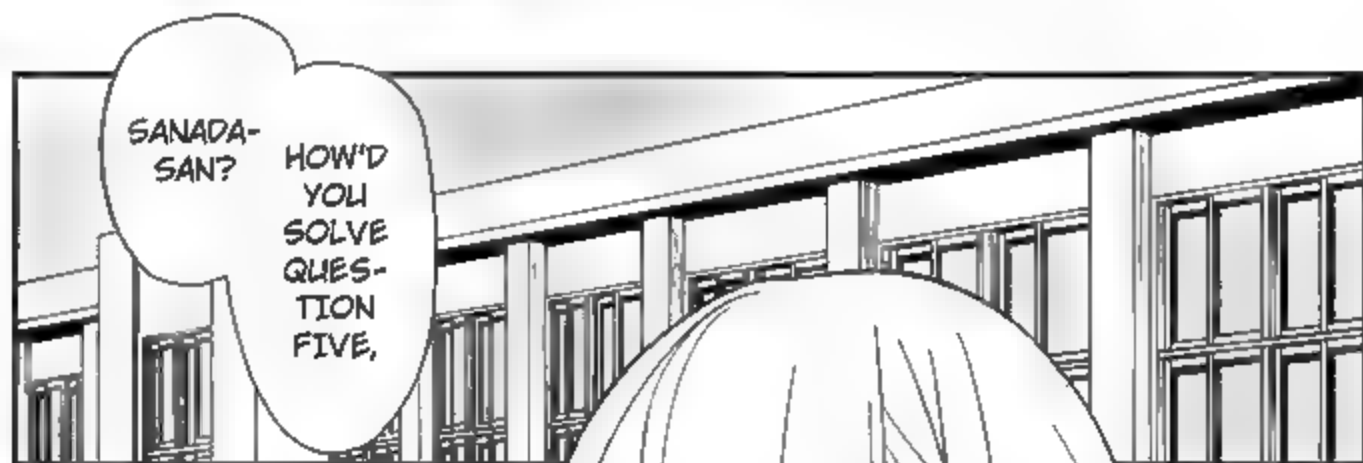


















I WAS  
SORT OF  
WATCHING  
YOU  
IN THE  
HALLS  
AND  
STUFF,  
BUT...

ONCE I  
REALIZED  
YOU  
WERE THE  
GIRL MY  
BROTHER  
TALKED  
ABOUT,  
FOR  
ABOUT A  
YEAR...

YEAH.



HM?  
REALLY  
?

BACK  
DURING  
THE  
CULTURAL  
FESTI-  
VAL, IT  
OCCURRED  
TO ME  
...

THAT  
YOU'RE  
NOTHING  
LIKE YOU  
WERE  
BEFORE,  
LILI-  
HYUN.

LIKE  
YOUR  
EXPRES-  
SIONS.



YOU  
WERE  
ALWAYS  
FROWN-  
ING...

LILINA  
SANADA.



I  
DON'T  
THINK  
I'D  
HAVE  
FELT  
LIKE  
TALKING  
TO YOU.

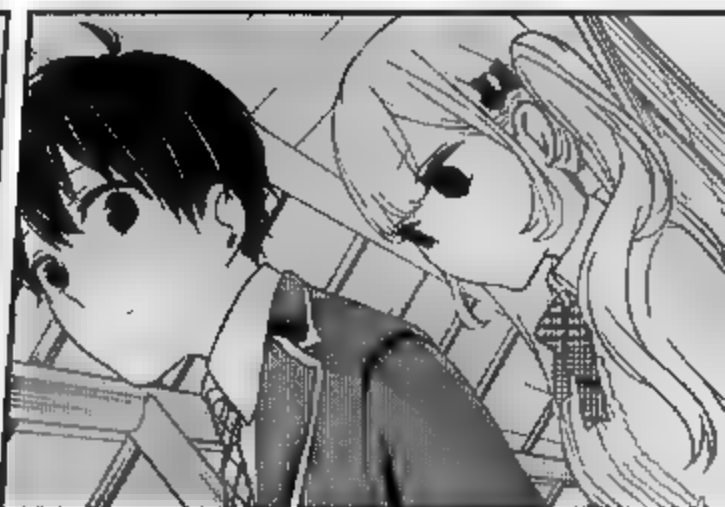
BEFORE  
SUMMER  
...

IF YOU  
WERE  
STILL  
THAT  
FROWNY  
SNOOTY  
SANA-  
DA...

SINCE  
JUST  
BEFORE  
SUMMER...  
I FEEL LIKE  
YOU'VE  
SOMEHOW  
SOFTENED  
UP.

THAT'S  
WHY I  
TALKED  
TO YOU.

...



**SHE MET THEM,  
AND MET THE WORLD.**

**NEXT TIME: THE SECOND ATTACK MEANS EVERYTHING**

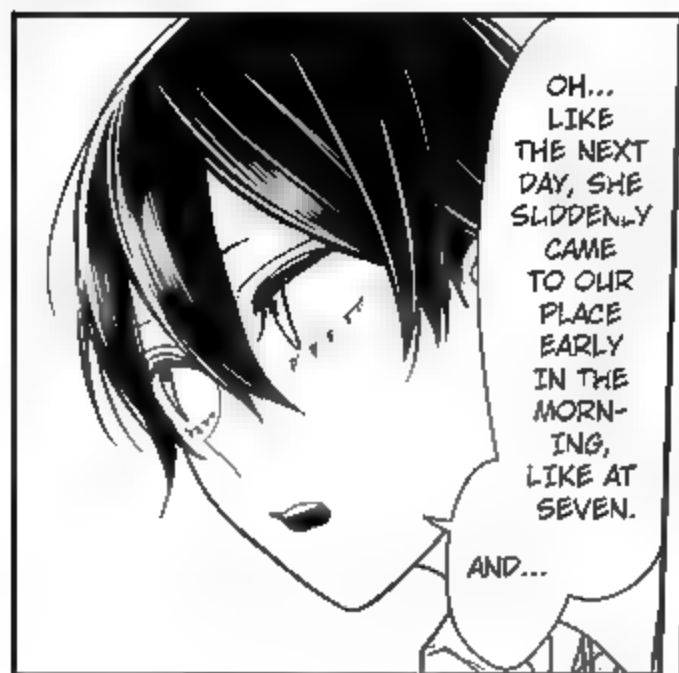


# Love and Lies

BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI

After Nisaka's older brother and his partner got off to a terrible start, how did the two of them end up engaged?





















# Love and Lies

BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI

Neji and his friends are invited to Nisaka's brother's wedding. Someone catches sight of these handsome young men and women (+one extra) walking along, and makes some strange assumptions!

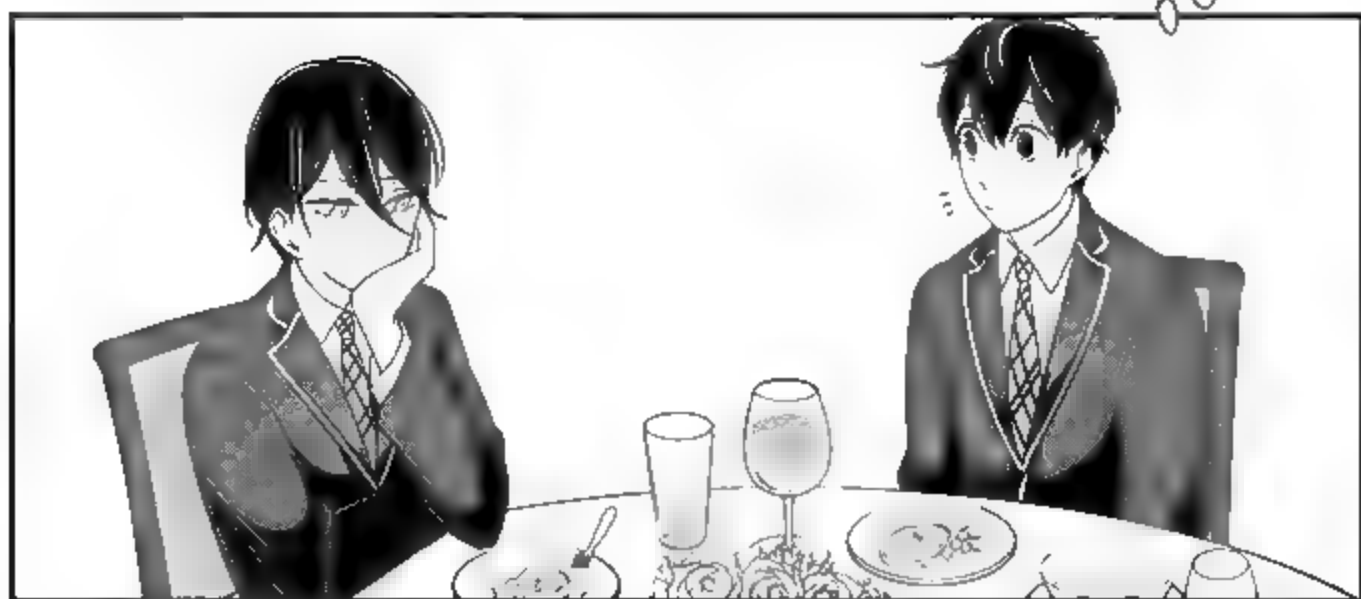






AND  
HERE  
COMES  
THE NEW  
BRIDE  
AND  
GROOM!











WHY  
WOULDN'T  
YOU FALL  
FOR THEM?

AND THEN  
GO ON TO SPEND  
A LOT OF TIME  
TOGETHER...



A FATED  
COUPLE,  
HUH...

I'M ITOU,  
I WORK  
FOR THE  
MINISTRY,  
AND THE  
TWO  
OF THEM  
WERE  
IN MY  
CHARGE.  
IT WAS  
FOUR  
YEARS  
AND SEVEN  
MONTHS  
AGO THAT  
THE GOV-  
ERNMENT  
NOTICE  
BROUGHT  
THIS FATED  
COUPLE  
TOGETHER



DO I LOVE  
LILINA?

LOVE...

I WONDER...



BADUMP



IT'S  
NOTH-  
ING.

WHAT  
?





IS  
TAKA-  
SAKI-  
SAN.

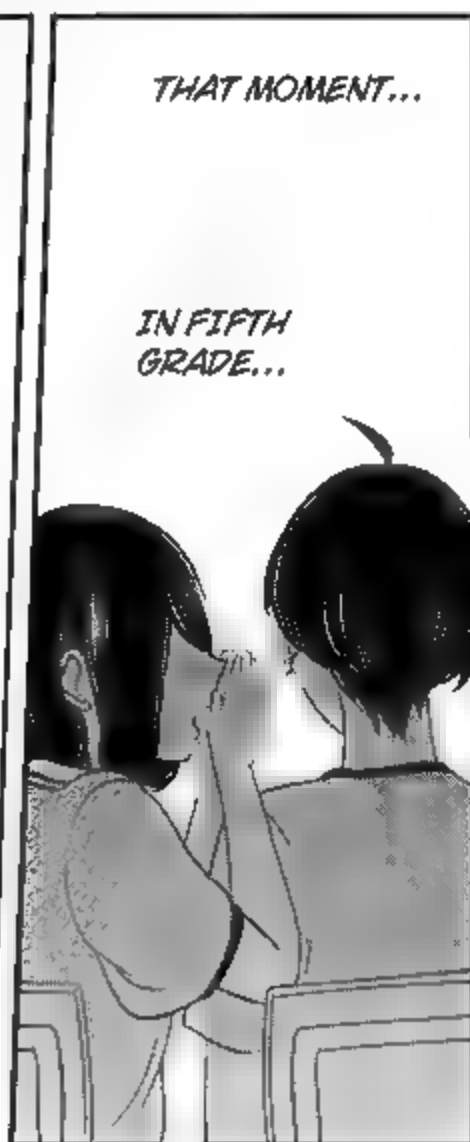
THE  
ONE I  
LOVE...



I WAS SO  
HAPPY...

WHEN I SAW  
HER SMILE...

I THOUGHT  
WE WERE FATED TO  
BE TOGETHER.



THAT MOMENT...

IN FIFTH  
GRADE...



I FELL IN LOVE  
WITH HER.

THAT'S  
WHY...

HIS HANDS CAN  
GRASP ONLY ONE.

NEXT TIME: "WHAT KIND OF  
FEELINGS DOES A CANDIDATE  
FOR BRIDE HAVE?"



# Love and Lies

**BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI**

The two girls are in admiration  
of Nisaka's brother's wedding.

But only one of them can be Neji's bride...











I DON'T  
REALLY  
KNOW,  
BUT...

SHE  
SAID, I  
COME  
OFF AS  
GENTLER  
THAN I  
USED  
TO.



OH,  
THAT'S  
THE GIRL  
WITH THE  
GLASSES  
YOU MET  
THE  
OTHER  
DAY...

AND  
THEN  
ARISA  
...

YEAH...  
THAT HASN'T  
REALLY  
HAPPENED  
MUCH TO  
ME BEFORE,  
SO I WAS  
STARTLED.

OH,  
REALLY  
?

YEAH.



I  
THINK  
...

IT'S  
THANKS  
TO  
YUKARI...  
AND YOU.



THAT'S  
WHY,  
UM...

AND  
...



I'VE  
BEEN  
HAPPY  
...

AND  
I'VE  
HAD FUN  
WITH  
YOU...

I WAS  
ABLE  
TO MAKE  
FRIENDS  
FOR THE  
FIRST  
TIME...  
BE-  
CAUSE  
YOU  
BECAME  
MY  
FRIEND.



LILI-  
CHAN...



THANK  
YOU.



! M-  
ME,  
TOO!

I'D LIKE  
US TO  
ALWAYS  
BE  
FRIENDS



YOU'RE  
AWKWARD,  
FORTH-  
RIGHT  
AND A  
BAD  
LIAR  
...

I  
REALLY  
HAVE A  
GOOD  
TIME  
WHEN  
WE'RE  
TOGE-  
THER.

I'M GLAD  
WE WERE  
ABLE TO  
BECOME  
FRIENDS.



INVITE  
ME...

TO YOUR  
WEDDING.



...



HUH?  
?



HA  
HA  
...

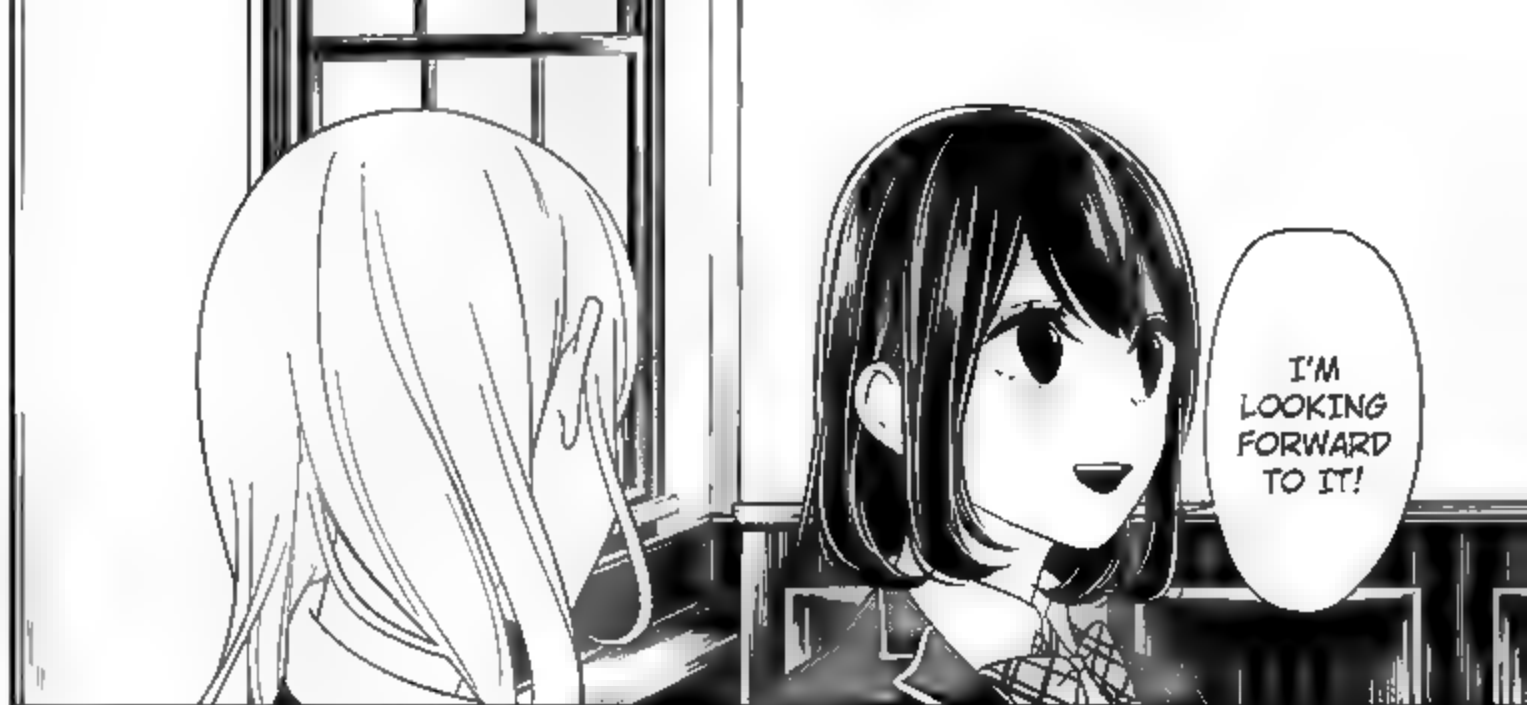
OR  
NOT...

OH, IF  
YOU WANT,  
I COULD  
MAKE YOUR  
BRIDES-  
MAID  
SPEECH!



LOOKING  
SO  
HAPPY...

YOU'D  
LOOK  
AMAZING,  
ALL  
FANCY LIP  
THERE...



HER FALSE ENTHUSIASM  
CONFUSES LILINA.

NEXT TIME: "IT DOESN'T MATTER IF IT'S A LIE"



# Love and Lies

**BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI**

While this blissful wedding carries on,  
she cries alone.

Love is painful, and also beautiful.












I  
CAN'T  
TELL  
YOU.

SORRY  
...



THEN  
WHY  
...?



WHO  
WILL  
BE THE  
NEXT  
HAPPY  
BRIDE  
?!

LADIES,  
IT'S TIME TO  
TOSS THE  
BOUQUET!



ANYTHING!  
I'LL DO  
ANYTHING!

I-IS  
THERE  
ANYTHING  
I CAN  
DO?



...

ONE!

ON THE  
COUNT OF  
THREE...

TWO!

IS  
THERE  
ANY-  
THING  
I CAN  
DO?

I HOPE  
I CAN  
HELP...

THREE!

IT...  
DOESN'T  
...

MATTER  
...

!



IT  
DOESN'T  
MATTER...

IF IT'S  
A LIE...



SAY...

YOU  
LOVE  
ME.





Wooi







CONGRATU-  
LATIONS!



EVERYONE,  
GIVE HER  
A ROUND OF  
APPLAUSE!



CONGRATU-  
LATIONS!



CONGRATU-  
LATIONS!

CONGRATS!  
YOU'LL  
BE A CUTE  
FUTURE  
BRIDE!

IT FLEW  
STRAIGHT  
TOWARD  
YOU!



AND  
WAIT...



IT  
WENT  
TOWARD  
YOU, SO  
WHAT-  
EVER.

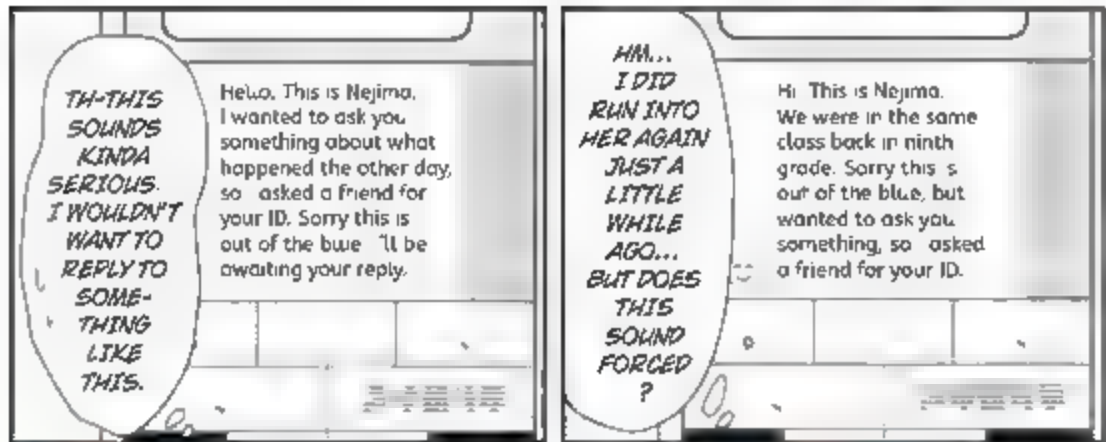
BUT  
THERE'S  
OTHERS  
WHO  
WOULD  
HAVE  
BEEN  
BETTER.

SHOULD  
I HAVE  
CAUGHT  
IT?



WHERE  
DID  
YUKARI  
AND  
MISAKI  
GO?

ONLY ONE OF THE TWO CAN BE A HAPPY BRIDE.  
NEXT TIME: "REQUEST FOR FRIENDSHIP"



# Love and Lies

Shuu Igarashi seems to know something about Misaki.

Neji experiments with a variety of message styles to get this mysterious girl to add him.

ID: syu-syusyusyu

TH-  
THANK  
YOU...

HERE.  
I ASKED  
MISAKI  
FOR IT.

THIS  
IS...  
IGA-  
RASHI-  
SAN'S  
ID...

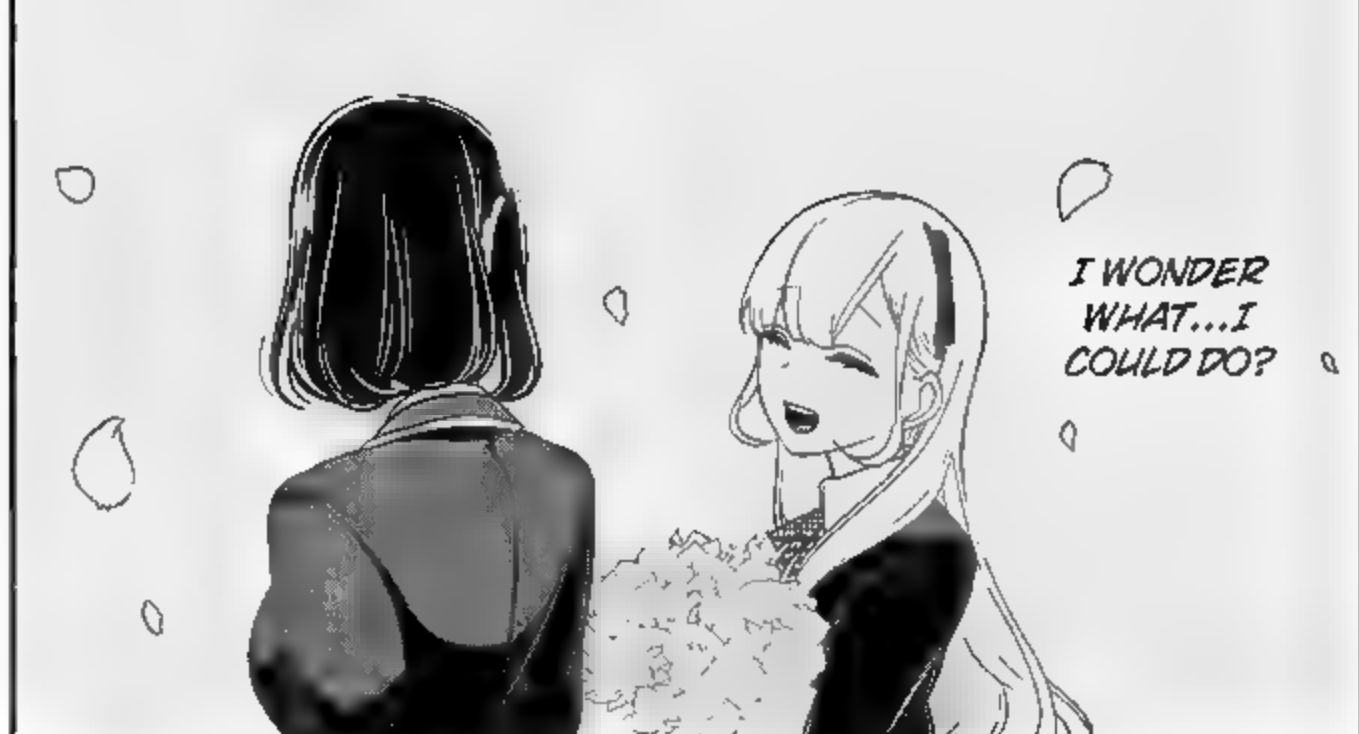
IS  
SOME-  
THING  
WRONG  
?

SOMEHOW, WHEN WE  
WERE HEADING BACK...  
I COULDN'T LOOK AT  
HER FACE.

Y-  
YEAH  
...

N-  
NOPE! IS  
THAT THE  
BOUQUET?  
IT'S  
PRETTY.





I WONDER  
WHAT...I  
COULD DO?



BUT...

I JUST  
HAVE TO  
TRY NOT  
TO WASTE  
THIS  
CHANCE  
LILINA  
GOT ME!

ANYWAY!  
RIGHT  
NOW...

GRAB!



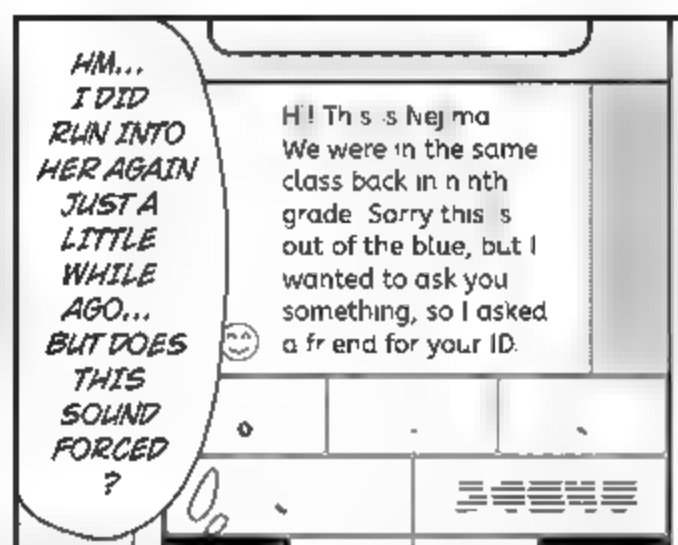
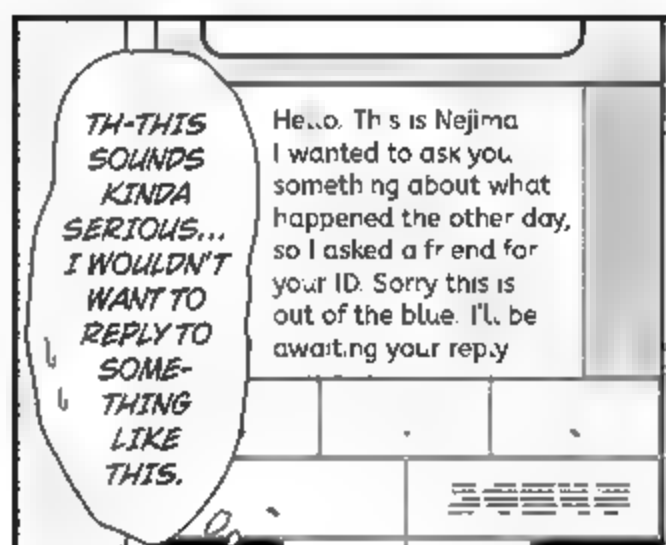
AND WHAT KIND OF MESSAGE  
AM I GOING TO SEND, ANYWAY?  
WHAT DO I SAY?!



LIRK!  
MY  
HANDS  
ARE  
ALL  
SWEATY..  
AND I'M  
TREMBLING!

WITH  
LILINA  
AND TAKA-  
SAKI-SAN,  
I GOT  
THEIR  
CONTACT  
FROM  
THEM  
IN PER-  
SON  
...

MESSAG-  
ING A  
GIRL  
OUT OF  
THE BLUE  
IS SO  
NERVE-  
WRACK-  
ING...



syu-syusyusu has blocked you.





\*KOFUN SHAPED WITH A SQUARED BASE AND A CIRCULAR MOUND ON TOP.











OH...

GREAT.



I DO!

DO YOU  
GET THAT  
?!

WE STILL  
HAVEN'T  
GOTTEN  
ANYWHERE  
YET...

WHAT'S  
IMPORTANT  
IS TOMOR-  
ROW!



HUH?  
WHY  
ARE YOU  
BEING  
SO FOR-  
MAL?

TH-  
THANKS  
FOR  
COMING  
TODAY  
AFTER I  
CALLED  
YOU...

OUT  
OF THE  
BLUE.



SHE'S  
BOUND  
TO HAVE  
MADE  
EXTRA FOR  
TOMOR-  
ROW'S  
LUNCHES.

IT'S  
OKAY!  
WE'RE  
HAVING  
CURRY  
TODAY.

HUH?  
I CAN'T,  
NOT  
WITHOUT  
NOTICE.

IT  
WOULD  
MAKE  
MY MOM  
HAPPY  
COME  
HAVE  
DINNER  
WITH  
US.

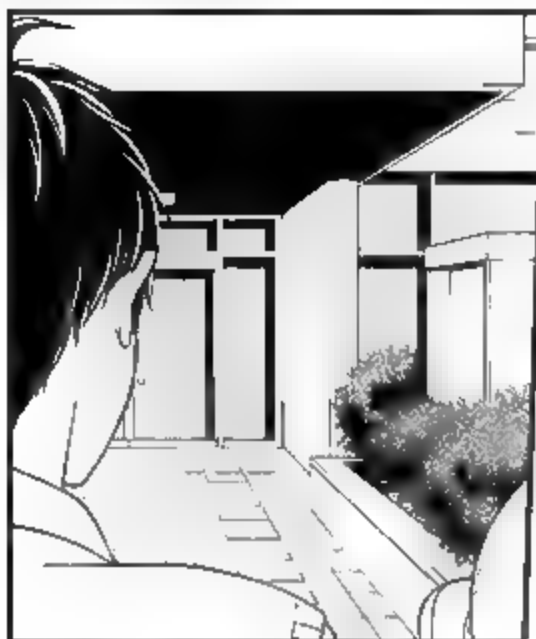
OH,  
SINCE  
YOU'RE  
OUT HERE  
ALREADY,  
DO YOU  
WANT TO  
COME  
BY MY  
PLACE?



## The Strategy for the Control of the Declining Birth Rate

The Strategy for the Control of the Declining Birth Rate, also known as the Yukari Law, is a government-mediated marriage matchmaking system, implemented in 1975 with the goal of increasing the national birth rate. It is also commonly referred to as the government notice. It was originally proposed by the former Minister of State for Next Generations, Minister Ryou Igarashi.

...with the goal of increasing the national birth rate. It is referred to as the government notice. It was originally proposed by the former Minister of State for Next Generations, Minister Ryou Igarashi.



WHAT DOES SHUU IGARASHI WANT?

NEXT TIME: "THE HEART OF THE MATTER"

# Love and Lies

Finally, their nerve-wracking  
meeting with Shuu Igarashi!  
...Or so they thought. Why is  
Lilina so excited? Huh?!

 MangaBox

TRANSLATION BY JENNIFER J. WARD  
ADAPTATION BY ALEXANDRA E. SWANSON  
YKS SERVICES LLC/SKY JAPAN, INC

**BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI**



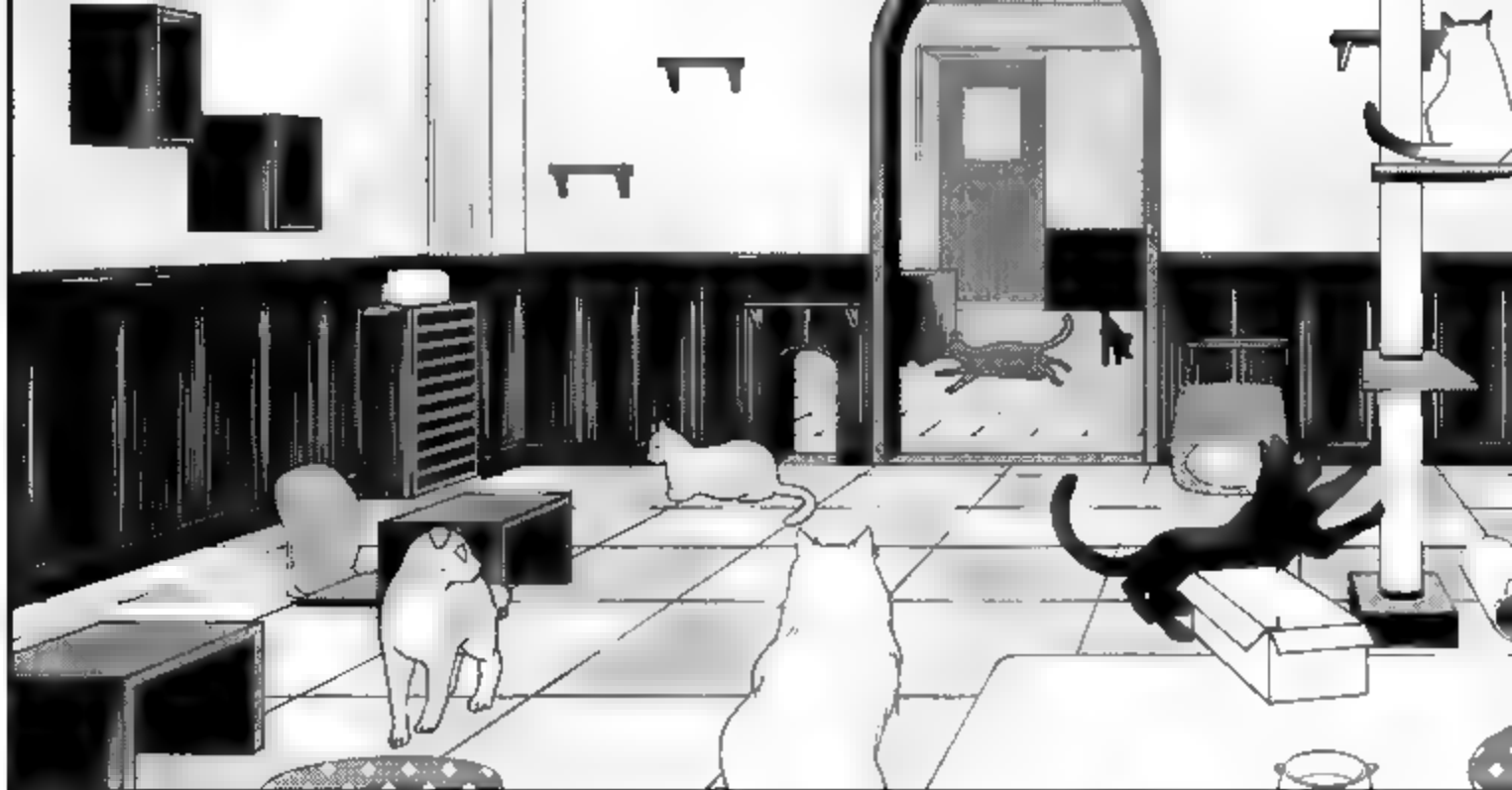


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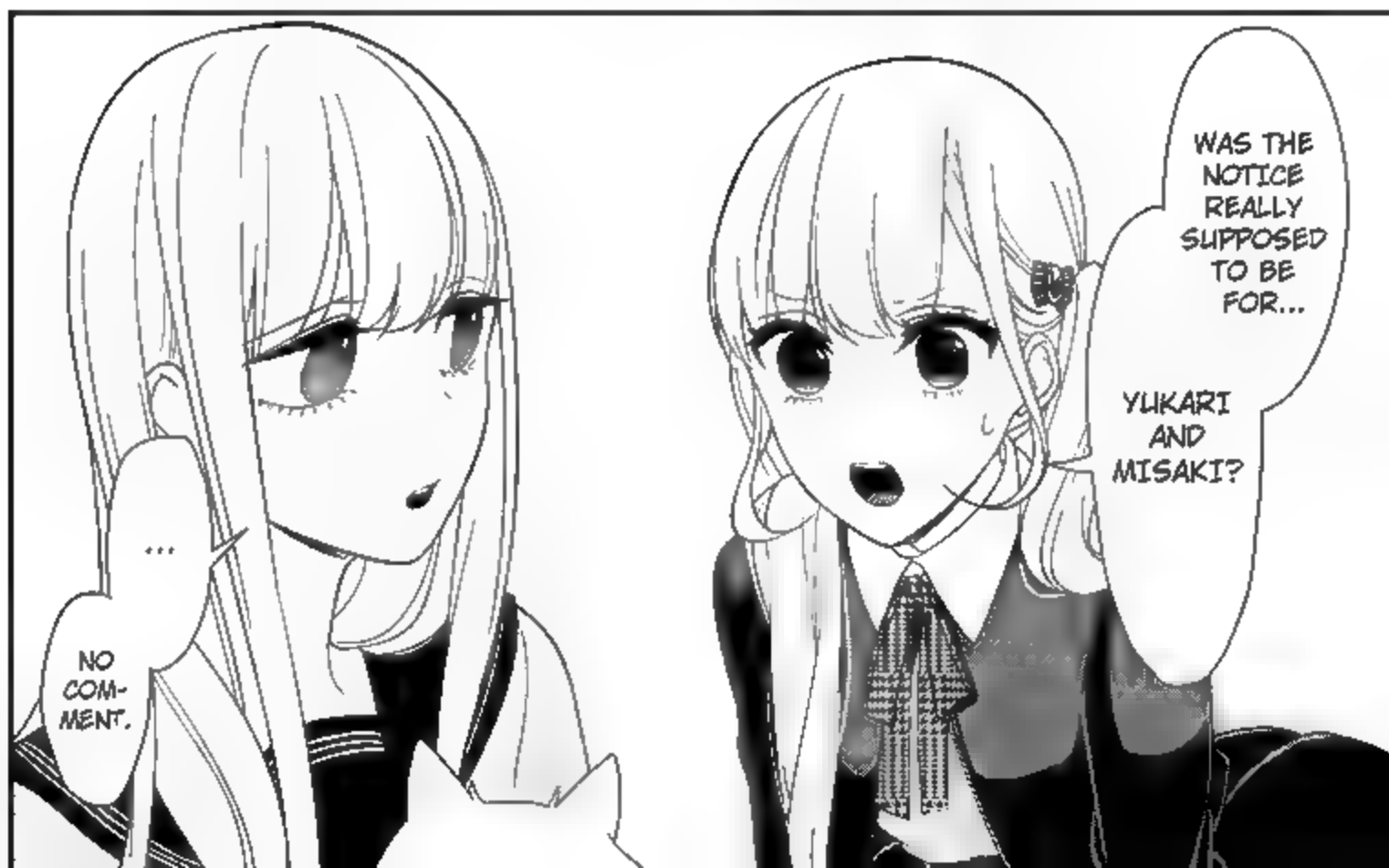




















AND IS FAR MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

THAT'S WHY I SAID THAT

...  
THERE'S A CONNECTION BETWEEN YOU AND MISAKI THAT CANNOT BE MEASURED BY OTHERS  
...



THEN WHY DID YOU SAY THAT TAKASAKI-SAN WAS THE ONE REALLY MEANT FOR ME?

IF YOU DON'T WANT US TO BE TOGETHER ...



I...

USED TO HATE MISAKI TAKASAKI.



AN IMPORTANT CONNECTION?

NEXT TIME: "TRUE FEELINGS"

SHUU SPEAKS OF THE "REAL MISAKI TAKASAKI"...

# Love and Lies

Shuu Igarashi begins to speak  
of the real Misaki Takasaki.

BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI



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I MET  
MISAKI  
IN  
EIGHTH  
GRADE.

WE JUST  
HAPPENED  
TO BE IN  
THE SAME  
GROUP,  
AND THAT  
LED TO US  
TALKING.



HER  
SMILES  
LOOKED  
SHALLOW  
TO ME, LIKE  
SHE WAS  
TRYING TO  
HIDE WHAT  
SHE WAS  
REALLY  
THINKING.

MISAKI  
WAS  
POPULAR,  
A CENTRAL  
FIGURE  
IN THE  
CLASS...

BUT FOR  
SOME  
REASON, I  
COULDN'T  
WARM UP  
TO HER.



WHEN ALL  
THE OTHER  
GIRLS WERE  
APPROACH-  
ING HER AS  
FRIENDS.

I  
THOUGHT  
IT WAS  
RUDE OF  
HER...







...



HOW  
WOULD  
THEY BE  
USEFUL?  
AS A  
MAGIC  
CHARM?

?  
WHAT  
WOULD  
YOU EVEN  
DO WITH  
THIS...  
YUKARI  
NEJIMA?  
GUY'S  
PHOTOS  
?



LIKE  
HIM?

...  
WAIT...  
DO  
YOU...



DON'T  
TELL  
ANYONE.

...  
...





HE  
ALWAYS  
JUST  
SEEMED  
SO  
BLAND.

WAS  
THERE  
ANYTHING  
GREAT  
ABOUT  
HIM?  
I DON'T  
REMEM-  
BER

HE WAS  
IN MY  
CLASS IN  
GRADE  
SEVEN, BUT  
HE DIDN'T  
LEAVE MUCH  
OF AN IMPRES-  
SION.



YOU'RE  
NOT  
WRIT-  
ING  
YOUR  
NAME  
ON  
IT?



field trip photo applica

class 2-3

name \_\_\_\_\_

photo order numbers

5 12 21 32



I'VE NEVER SEEN HER  
WITH THAT LOOK BEFORE.



...  
OKAY,  
THEN  
WHY  
DON'T  
I APPLY  
FOR  
YOU?



SO I'LL  
JUST  
LOOK AT  
IT LIKE  
THIS.

I DON'T  
HAVE  
THE CON-  
FIDENCE.  
HE'S IN  
A DIF-  
FERENT  
CLASS...



YEAH,  
I'M FINE  
WITH  
DOING  
THIS  
SORT OF  
THING.



YOU  
WOULD  
?!

HUH?



IGA-  
RASHI-  
-SAN!

THANK  
YOU...



YOU  
CAN  
CALL  
ME  
SHUU.



...



ALL  
RIGHT.

THANK  
YOU,

SHUU.



THE  
REAL  
MISAKI  
TAKA-  
SAKI.

THAT  
WAS  
THE  
FIRST  
TIME I  
SAW...



I'LL  
GIVE  
IT  
BACK  
ONCE  
WE'RE  
DONE!

THANK  
YOU!



NO.

OH...  
I FORGOT  
MY MUSIC  
TEXT-  
BOOK.

MIND  
IF I  
GO  
OFF TO  
BOR-  
ROW  
ONE?



NOT  
FOR  
YUKARI  
NEJIMA  
?



YOU  
COULD  
JUST HAVE  
BORROWED  
THAT FROM  
THE CLASS  
NEXT  
DOOR...

WHY'D WE  
GO ALL  
THE WAY  
TO CLASS  
THREE?



BUT HE  
WASN'T  
THERE.



SO  
IT WAS  
FOR  
HIM...

WHOA...



JEEZ!

DON'T  
TEASE  
ME!

NAW.

HUH?  
AM I...  
BEING  
CREEPY,  
THEN?!



STALK-  
ER



THE REAL MRS. TAKASAKI, HER REAL LOVE.

NEXT TIME: "THE ONE MEANT FOR YOU"



# Love and Lies

BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI

She found the real Misaki  
Takasaki in the smile of that  
girl in love.

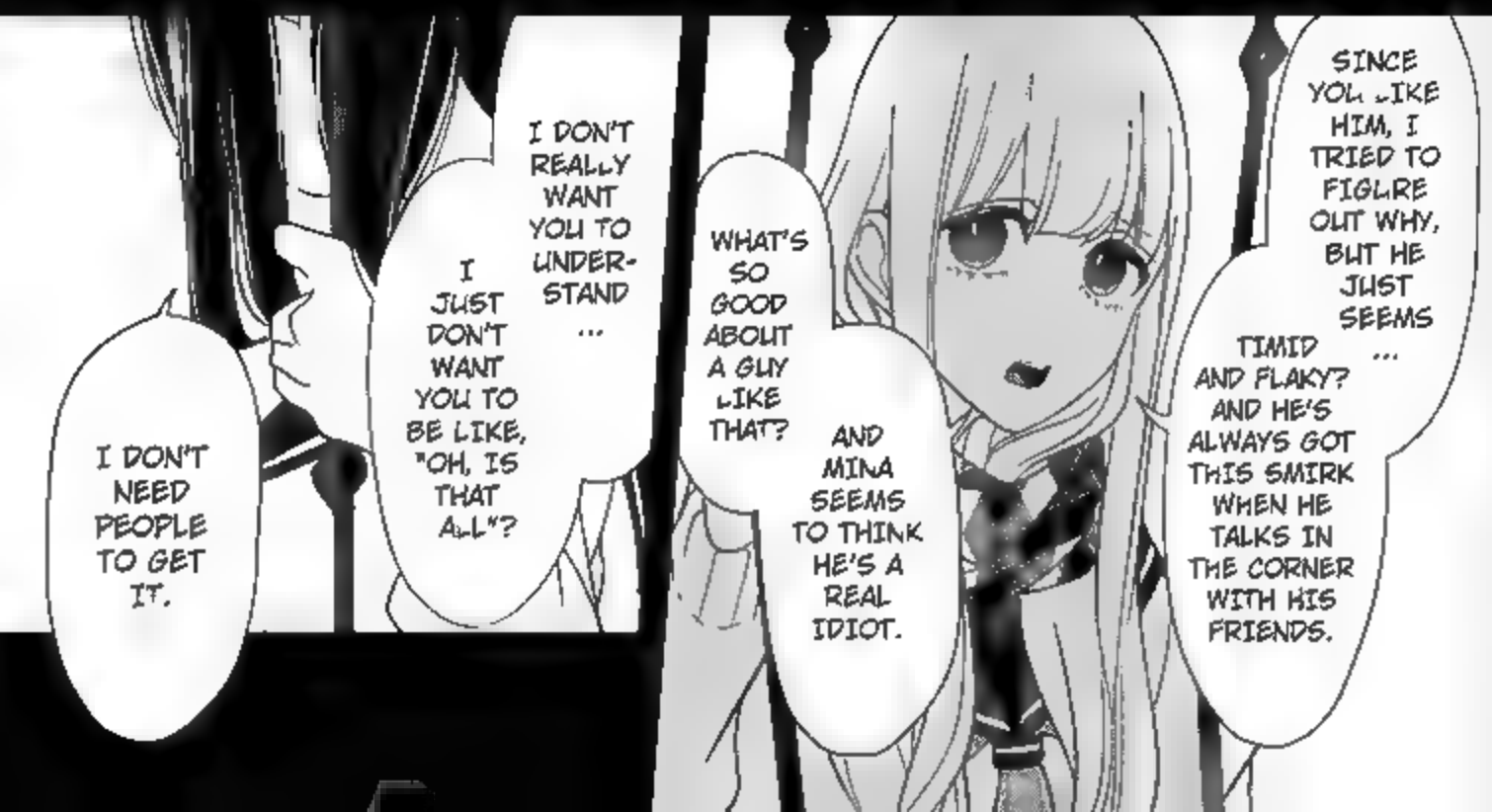




HEY...  
WHAT'S  
SO GREAT  
ABOUT  
YUKARI  
NEJIMA?



...



I DON'T  
NEED  
PEOPLE  
TO GET  
IT.

I  
JUST  
DON'T  
WANT  
YOU TO  
BE LIKE,  
"OH, IS  
THAT  
ALL?"

I DON'T  
REALLY  
WANT  
YOU TO  
UNDER-  
STAND  
...

WHAT'S  
SO  
GOOD  
ABOUT  
A GUY  
LIKE  
THAT?

AND  
MINA  
SEEMS  
TO THINK  
HE'S A  
REAL  
IDIOT.

SINCE  
YOU LIKE  
HIM, I  
TRIED TO  
FIGURE  
OUT WHY,  
BUT HE  
JUST  
SEEMS  
...

TIMID  
AND FLAKY?  
AND HE'S  
ALWAYS GOT  
THIS SMIRK  
WHEN HE  
TALKS IN  
THE CORNER  
WITH HIS  
FRIENDS.

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ARE  
IMPORTANT  
TO ME, AND  
THEY'RE  
JUST FOR  
ME.

THESE  
FEEL-  
INGS...



NO...  
IT CAN'T  
BE.

AND  
MAYBE  
THE  
REASON  
HER  
SMILES  
FELT OFF  
TO ME  
WAS...

MAYBE  
WHAT  
SHE  
WANTS

...  
IS TO  
PROTECT  
HER  
FEEL-  
INGS.



WHY  
WOULD  
YOU GO  
THAT  
FAR?

THAT'D  
BE A  
LITTLE  
SCARY,  
HWH...

LIKE  
WRIT-  
ING AN  
ANONY-  
MOUS  
LETTER  
?

I  
GUESS  
THERE'S  
NO WAY  
TO ASK  
HIM, IS  
THERE  
?

I THINK  
I WANT  
TO KNOW  
WHO WILL  
BE HIS  
ARRANGED  
PARTNER.

OH!  
BUT  
...









GRAN  
RECOGNIZED  
THAT, MADE  
PREDIC-  
TIONS...

AND  
WAS THE  
FIRST ONE  
TO THINK  
OF A  
COUNTER-  
MEASURE.

THE  
SAME IS  
ALSO  
TRUE OF  
HUMANS.

GRADU-  
ALLY, THE  
NUMBERS  
OF EACH  
SUCCESSIVE  
GENERATION  
GROW  
SMALLER.

BIO-  
LOGICALLY,  
WHEN THE  
SURVIVAL  
RATE OF A  
SPECIES  
COMMUNITY  
STABILIZ-  
ES...

THEIR  
BIRTH  
RATE ALSO  
DECREASES  
IN EQUAL  
PROPORTION,  
INSTINCTIVELY,  
TO AVOID  
THEIR  
NUMBERS  
GROWING  
TOO  
LARGE.



THAT'S  
WHAT  
GRAN  
ALWAYS  
SAID.

I MEAN,  
IF YOU  
BELIEVE  
IN YOUR  
RELATION-  
SHIP, AND  
YOU CAN  
HOLD ONTO  
THAT FEEL-  
ING ..

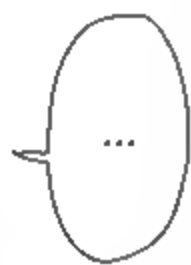
THAT  
MAKES  
IT FATE.

AND  
YOU CAN  
CERTIFY  
TO THEM  
THAT THEIR  
RELATION-  
SHIP IS  
SPECIAL,  
THEN THEIR  
MARRIAGE  
SHOULD  
HAVE A HIGH  
RATE OF  
SUCCESS.

AT THE  
SAME  
TIME, IF  
YOU HAVE  
A SOLID  
BASIS  
FROM  
WHICH TO  
RECOGNIZE  
WHICH  
COUPLES  
WILL BE  
COMPATI-  
BLE...







LIKE LILINA, SHOU IS DRAWN TO LOVE.

NEXT TIME: "FATEFUL LOVE"



# Love and Lies

BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI

Shuu's grandmother always said that the government notice will decide the one person you're meant to be with.

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MISAKI'S LOVE JUST LOOKED SO RADIANT TO ME. IT WAS LIKE IT COULD OVERTURN ALL REASON.

THEN I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHAT THAT LOVE FEELS LIKE, TOO.

BUT IF IT GIVES YOU A ONCE-IN-A-LIFE-TIME LOVE, ONE THAT WAS MEANT TO BE...

FRANKLY SPEAKING...

I DON'T REALLY KNOW.

S-SO WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE GOVERNMENT NOTICE?



AND I WANT YOU TO KNOW ABOUT THE ONE WHO YOU'RE REALLY MEANT TO BE WITH.

THAT'S WHY I WANT TO PROTECT HER.



PERHAPS I SHOULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN YOU INVOLVED.

IF YOU HAVE, THEN FORGET WHAT I'VE SAID.



SILENCE



SO THEN, WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?

I'VE BEEN LISTENING TO YOU KIDS FOR A WHILE.



NOW LET ME ASK YOU SOMETHING IN RETURN. DID YOU COME TO KNOW THAT KIND OF LOVE ...

HUH?

THROUGH YOUR NOTICE?









ANYWAY,  
STOP  
CONFUS-  
ING MY  
COUPLE  
WITH  
YOUR  
VAGUE  
IDEAS.

YOU'RE  
JUST  
CAUSING  
HASSLE  
FOR US  
ALL.

YOU  
GOT  
THAT?



ULTI-  
MATELY,  
YOU HAVE  
NO IDEA  
WHAT THEY  
SHOULD  
DO...

YOU  
JUST WANT  
TO HELP  
MISAKI  
TAKASAKI.



YOU  
DON'T  
KNOW  
ANY-  
THING!



THIS  
GLY IS  
MADE OF  
STRON-  
GER  
STUFF  
THAN YOU  
MIGHT  
THINK.  
HE'LL  
BE  
FINE  
WITH-  
OUT  
YOUR  
INTER-  
VEN--



BUT  
MISAKI  
...

YOU  
CAN  
SAY ALL  
YOU  
WANT...



SILENCE

WHO  
DOES  
NOT  
PLAN TO  
CHOOSE  
HER.

I AC-  
KNOWLEDGE  
I WASN'T  
THINKING  
CALMLY.

YOU'RE  
RIGHT...

I SHOULD  
NOT HAVE  
SPOKEN TO  
SOMEONE...



I WON'T TELL ANYONE THAT YOU CAME HERE ALONE ...

SO YOU GO PICK UP OUR TABS.



YAJI-MA!

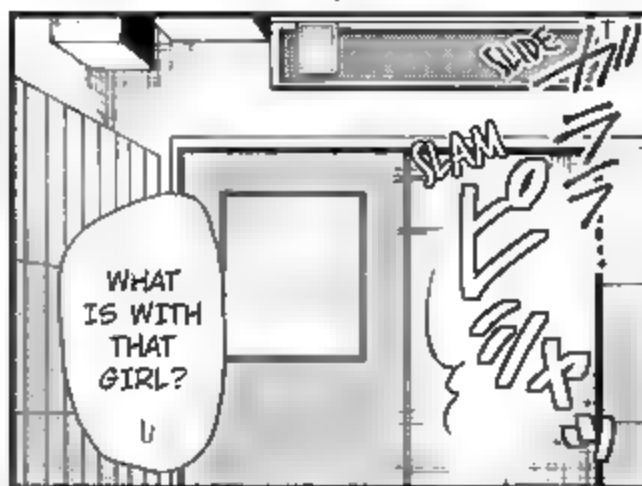
TWITCH



MISAKI DOESN'T NEED ANYONE BUT ME PROTECTING HER.

SO YOU FORGET EVERYTHING YOU HEARD TODAY.

BUT...



WHAT IS WITH THAT GIRL?



SEE YOU.

HUH?  
HEY,  
WAIT--

HEY!



THOUGH TO ME, SHE JUST SEEMS SOCIALLY IMPAIRED.

SHE'S INCREDIBLY SMART, SO THE HIGHER-UPS WANT HER TO INHERIT THE GOVERNMENT NOTICE CALCULATION PROGRAM.

YEAH... SHE'S OFTEN AROUND AT THE MINISTRY. SOME RELATIVE OF HERS WAS IMPORTANT.

DO YOU KNOW HER, YAJIMA-SAN?



SHY...



UM...  
KIND OF  
LIKE...  
SHY?

HUH?  
WHAT  
DOES  
THAT  
MEAN?



WAS HE  
INVESTIGATING  
US?

BUT, STILL... WHY IS  
YAJIMA-SAN HERE?

THIS IS WAY TOO  
CONVENIENT, TO BE  
COINCIDENCE.

I'LL  
PAY FOR  
THOSE  
OTHER  
THREE,  
TOO.



O-  
OH...

I'M  
SURE  
SHE HAD  
A POINT  
IN THERE,  
BUT DON'T  
BELIEVE  
A WORD  
OF IT.

OH, BUT  
NOBODY  
CAN  
FIDDLE  
WITH  
THE  
MATCH-  
UPS OR  
ANY-  
THING  
...



OH...  
HE'S  
JUST A  
REGULAR  
HERE...

YEAH...  
THEN I'LL  
TAKE THE  
AZUMERO-  
CHAN SET.

YOU'VE  
FILLED UP  
YOUR POINT  
CARD! WOULD  
YOU LIKE TO  
EXCHANGE IT  
FOR SOME  
OF OUR  
EXCLUSIVE  
STORE  
GOODS?

FOUR  
CUSTOMERS  
FOR ONE  
HOUR, ONE  
DRINK  
AND THE  
KITTY  
SNACKS  
COMES  
TO 4500  
YEN!

WAIT, WAS YAJIMA ACTUALLY JUST SLACKING OFF?  
NEXT TIME: "NOT LYING"



# Love and Lies

BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI

Yajima scolds Shuu for describing both Misaki's love and the love gained through the government notice system as "meant to be."









PLAN TO  
CHOOSE  
MISAKI?

DO  
YOU...



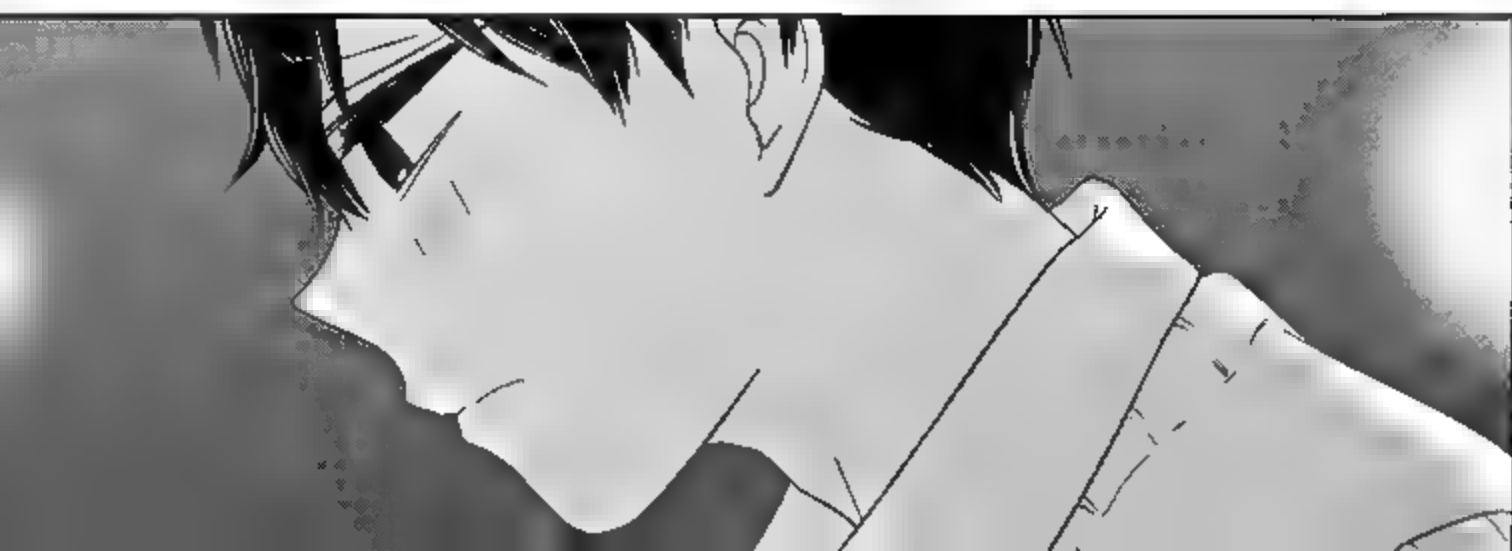
...



...  
I DON'T  
KNOW.



MAYBE  
MY IDEAS  
ABOUT  
SUPPORT-  
ING THE  
TWO OF  
YOU...  
WERE  
NOT  
ALL THAT  
WELL  
THOUGHT  
OUT.





THE ARRANGED PAIR HOLD HANDS,  
LOOKING UP AT THE SKY.

NEXT TIME: "FALLING GRADE"



TRANSLATION BY JENNIFER J. WARD  
ADAPTATION BY ALEXANDRA E. SWANSON  
YKS SERVICES LLC/SKY JAPAN, INC

# Love and Lies

BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI

Right as he's catching his breath, they  
get their exams handed back.

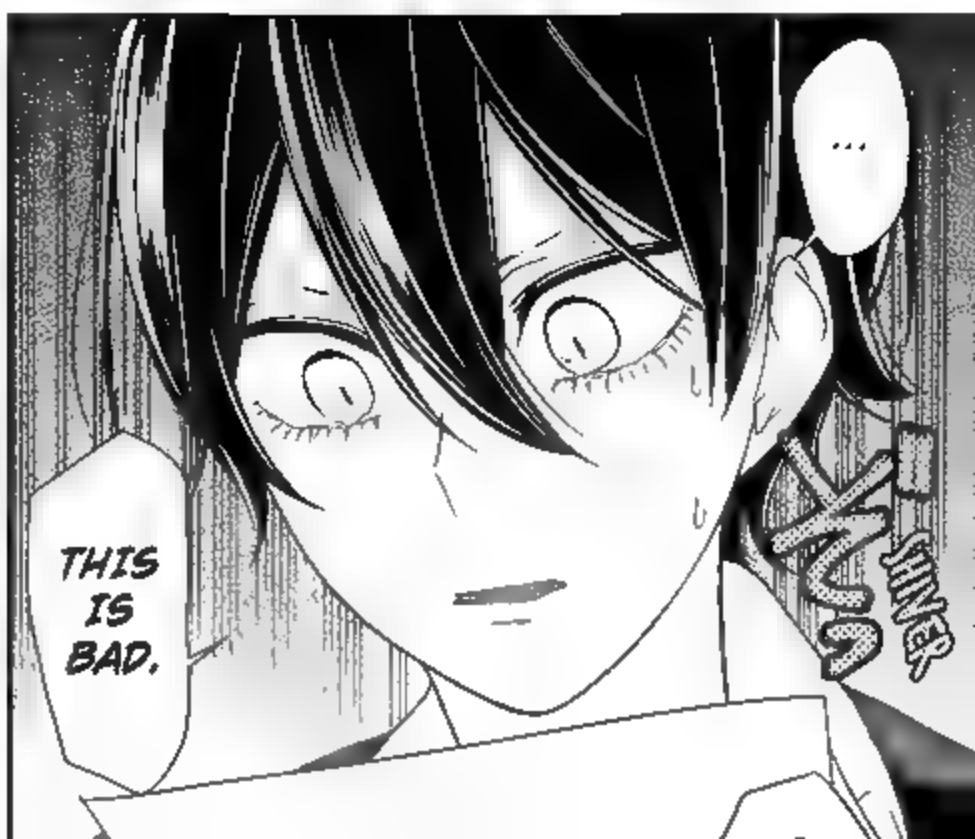
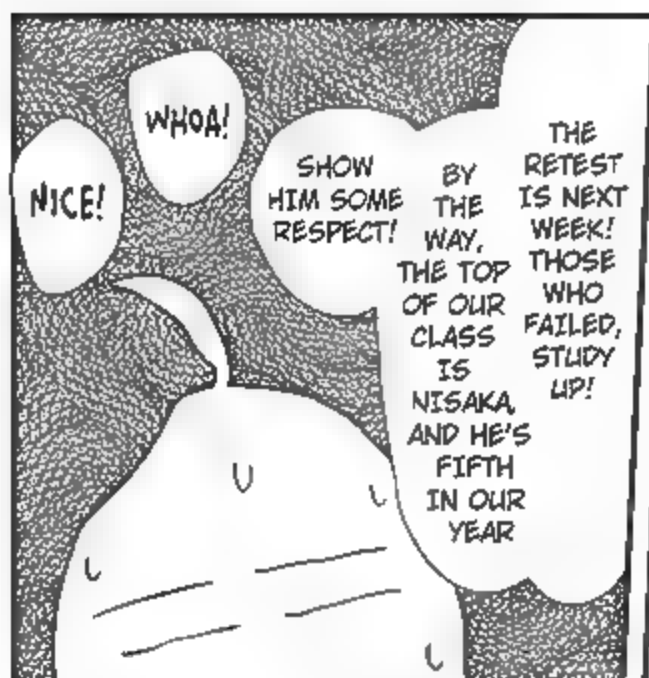
As for the results...you can surmise that  
from the look on Neji's face.

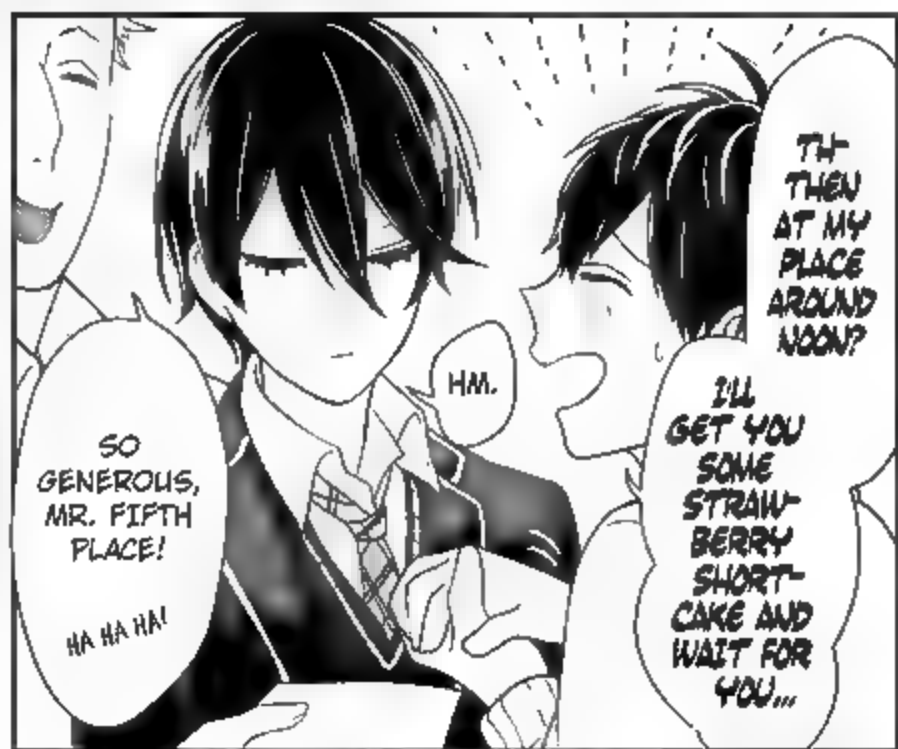


Year: 1 Class: 4 No. 11 Yukari Nejima

Subject	Score	Average	High Score	Subject	Score
Japanese	61	58	98	English I	36
Classical Japanese	42	46	95	OC	33
World History A	70	58	83	Social Studies	51
History A	76	55	88	Science A	29
Math I	32	56	85	Science B	54
Math A	37	60	83	Information I	51
Elective A	65	65	85	Elective B	58













MAYBE  
IT'D BE  
USEFUL  
TO HEAR  
SOME  
ALUMNI  
TALK.

OH. I  
HAVEN'T  
THOUGHT  
ABOUT  
THAT  
YET.

HAVE YOU  
DECIDED  
WHICH CLASS  
YOU'RE GOING  
TO FOR THE OB  
CAREER PATH  
INFO SESSION  
THE TEACHER  
TALKED ABOUT?



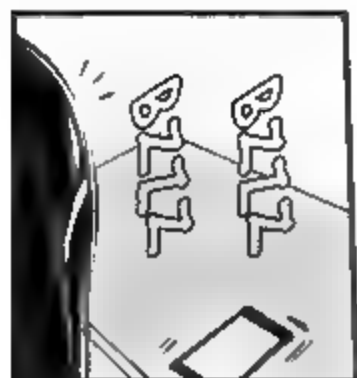
ou tomorrow.  
looking forward

n at the station  
the park. Where  
e you now?

I had fun today  
Thanks.

あ

か

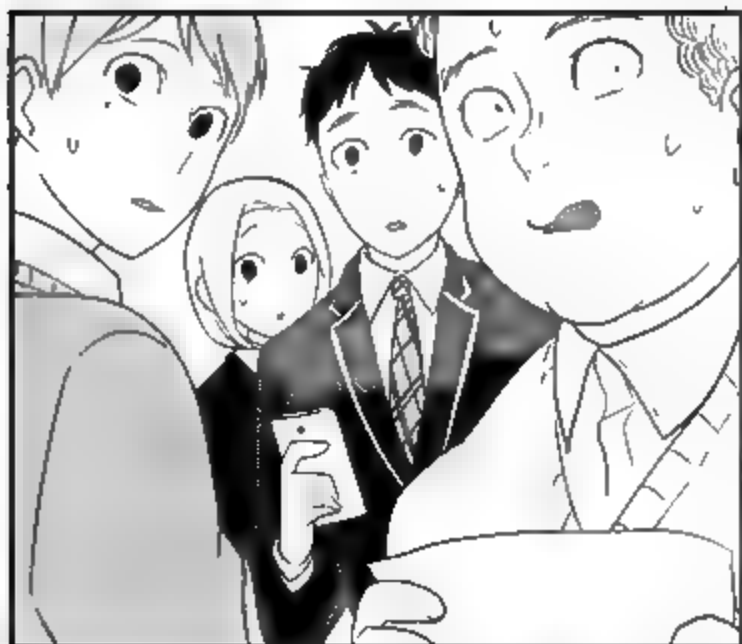




HELLO ?









SO...

BUT IS FOUR TOO MANY COOKS?

I  
THOUGHT  
IT WOULD  
BE REAS-  
SURING  
FOR ALL OF  
US TO DO  
THIS TO-  
GETHER  
?

WHY IS  
THIS  
HAPPEN-  
ING?

THREE HEADS ARE BETTER THAN ONE...

NEXT TIME: "STUDYING TOGETHER"



# Love and Lies

BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI

What?! Neji and Misaki are both failing?!

It's been a long time since the four of them last got together. It feels like chaos is on the horizon...

And so begins their study party!







RIGHT BEFORE THE EXAMS, MY LITTLE BROTHER GOT APPENDICITIS

STUFF AT HOME? LIKE WHAT?

OH..

BUT I WOULD'VE BEEN FINE IF I'D JUST BEEN STUDYING REGULARLY, SO I THINK I JUST BROUGHT IT ON MYSELF.



HMM, WELL, I'VE HAD A LOT OF STUFF GOING ON AT HOME RECENTLY.



REALLY?

HLH?

I GOT APPENDICITIS LAST YEAR, TOO. IT REALLY COMES OUT OF THE BLUE!



WOW... IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU HAD A ROUGH TIME.

HEH HEH HEH...

I JUST COULDN'T FIND THE TIME TO STUDY, SO NOW HERE I AM.

MY PARENTS COULDN'T GET TIME OFF WORK, SO I HAD TO TAKE CARE OF VISITING HIM IN THE HOSPITAL.



YEAH, YEAH.

...



OH YEAH, YOU MISSED THE CRAM SCHOOL MOCK EXAM THAT TIME.

IT WAS THIS RARE TYPE YOU DETECT BEFORE IT STARTS HURTING, THOUGH

YEAH, RIGHT ON MY BIRTHDAY LAST YEAR.







OH,  
HEY, IT'S  
TOTALLY  
FINE.  
THEY  
REALLY  
DON'T!

I'M  
SORRY...  
I WASN'T  
EVEN  
THINKING  
WHEN  
I SAID  
THEY  
DIDN'T  
LOOK  
ALIKE.

...

NOW THAT  
I THINK  
OF IT, I'VE  
NEVER  
HEARD ANY  
RUMORS  
SAYING  
YOU HAVE  
A LITTLE  
BROTHER

...

OH!  
BEFORE  
WHEN THE  
MINISTRY  
PEOPLE  
WERE GOING  
TO YOUR  
HOUSE,  
WAS THAT  
...?

YEAH!  
IT WAS  
FOR A  
REGULAR  
MEETING  
WITH MY  
PARENTS.

THAT'S  
REALLY ALL  
IT WAS, NO  
PRODDING  
ABOUT THEIR  
REMARriage.  
SO DON'T  
WORRY  
ABOUT IT,  
OKAY?

...

YEAH,  
COME  
ON,  
LET'S  
GET  
STUDY-  
ING

WELL,  
IF YOU  
SAY IT'S  
NO BIG  
DEAL, I  
GUESS  
IT'S  
NOT.

LET'S  
GET  
BACK TO  
STUDY-  
ING.

GLANCE

STUDYING  
STUDYING  
STUDYING





# Love and Lies

BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI

Neji is shaken to hear that this is Misaki's parents' second marriage.

Unable to take how Nisaka does not seem especially concerned about it...he charges in!

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UH...  
LM...  
YOU WERE  
OFTEN  
GLANCING  
AT EACH  
OTHER  
...

AND  
HAVING  
THESE  
MEANING-  
FUL-  
SOUNDING  
CONVERSA-  
TIONS...

AND  
THEN  
YOU'D  
SUDDENLY  
BE CHAT-  
TING  
PLEAS-  
ANTLY.

YOU'RE  
A GOOD  
MATCH.

AND  
I GOT  
THAT  
IMPRES-  
SION  
FROM  
NISAKA,  
TOO.



HOLD  
ON A  
MINUTE  
...

WHY  
DID YOU  
THINK  
THAT  
IN THE  
FIRST  
PLACE,  
NEJIMA-  
KUN?



"DO  
YOU LIKE  
TAKASAKI-  
SAN?"

OH, YOU  
KNOW,  
LIKE  
WHEN I  
ASKED  
YOU  
BEFORE  
...

FROM  
WHAT?



AND THEN  
DURING  
THE CAMP-  
ING TRIP,  
I SAID,  
"YOU'RE  
HIDING  
SOME-  
THING,  
AREN'T  
YOU?" AND  
YOU APOL-  
OGIZED.

YEAH,  
BUT... IT  
SORT OF  
SEEMED  
KIND OF  
LIKE YOU  
WERE  
LYING.

I TOLD  
YOU NO.







WHO HAS SHORTCAKE  
IN THEIR FUTURE?

NEXT TIME: "FULL OF UNKNOWN THINGS"



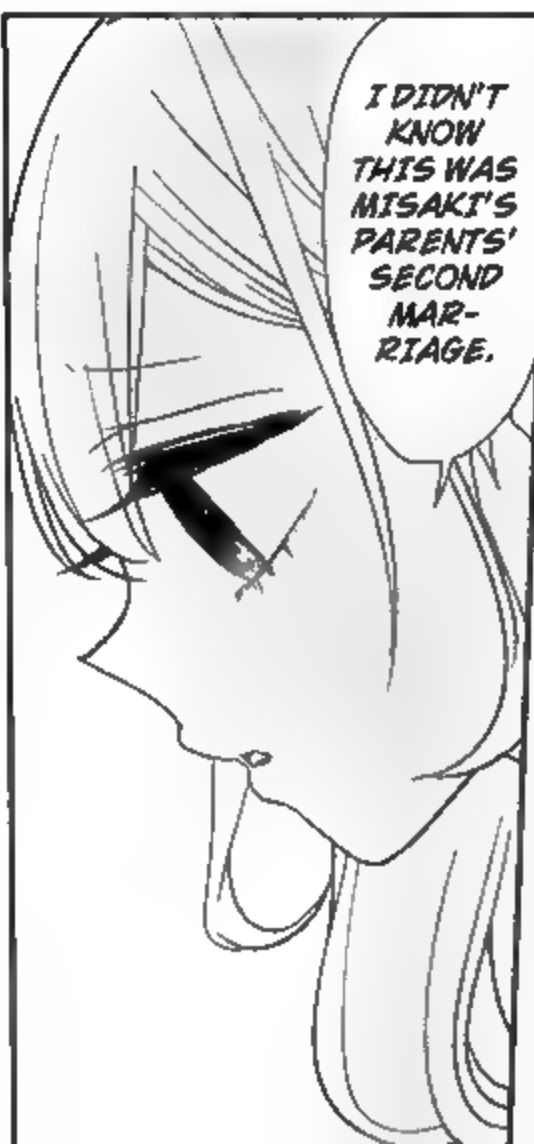


# Love and Lies

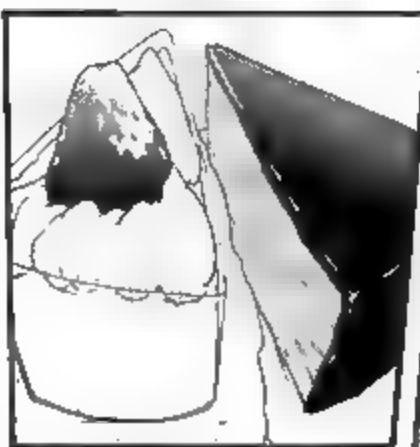
BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI

Neji is super relieved to find out that he was all wrong about Nisaka liking Takasaki-san.

But now we have another problem:  
who will have this shortcake snack?! And they're  
still ignoring their studies!









I MAY NOT  
KNOW HER,  
I MAY NOT  
UNDERSTAND  
HER...  
BUT THAT  
DOESN'T  
CHANGE  
WHAT'S  
IMPORT-  
ANT.

I DON'T  
KNOW WHY  
SHE WAS  
CRYING  
AFTER THE  
WEDDING.

I DOUBT  
I KNOW  
TAKA-  
SAKI-  
SAN  
AT ALL,  
EITHER.

AND  
I WAS  
TOTALLY  
OFF  
ABOUT  
NISAKA,  
TOO.

BUT  
STILL  
...



BUT AS  
LONG  
AS THE  
GOVERN-  
MENT  
NOTICE  
EXISTS  
...

I  
DON'T  
THINK  
THINGS  
CAN  
STAY  
THE WAY  
THEY  
ARE.

I WAS  
ABLE TO  
TELL HER  
HOW I  
FEEL...

BECAUSE  
OF THE  
GOVERN-  
MENT  
NOTICE...  
BECAUSE I  
GOT MY  
NOTICE.

AND  
I WAS  
ABLE TO  
MEET  
LILINA  
...



WHAT  
DO I...  
WANT TO  
DO?

IS THERE  
EVEN  
ANYTHING  
I CAN DO,  
ANYWAY?











ALWAYS  
BE  
FRIENDS,  
YOU  
KNOW?

I WANT  
US TO...



WHAT  
?

YOU  
REALLY  
ARE  
STUPID.

HEH  
HEH  
HEH!



NEXT TIME "ALWAYS"



NO-  
WHERE  
YOU  
NEED TO  
WORRY  
ABOUT

TURN  
?

WHERE  
WAS  
THAT  
"PER"  
GOING  
?

WHICH CAKE WILL HE CHOOSE?!



FIRST,  
THE  
PER...  
UH,  
NISAKA-  
KUN.

ALL  
RIGHT,  
THEN  
LET'S  
CHOOSE  
OUR  
CAKES.

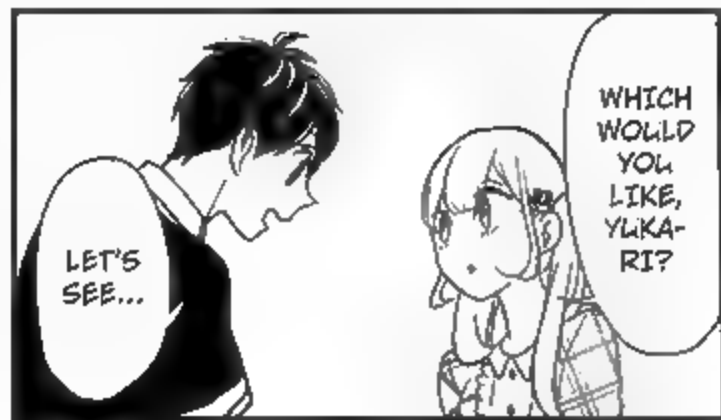


# Love and Lies

BY MUSAWO TSUMUGI

The study party continues.

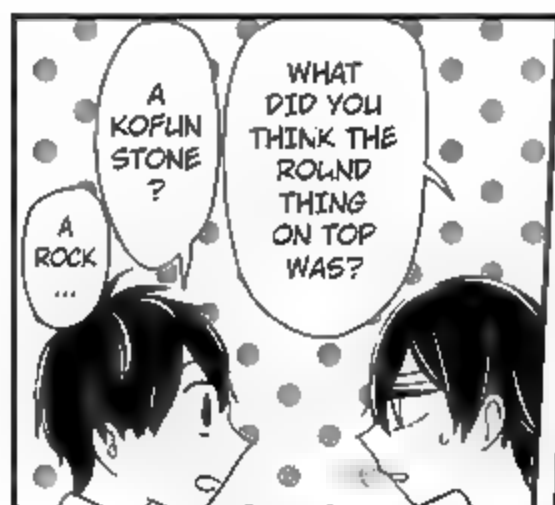
Which cake will Nisaka the  
NHK-believer choose?!





\*CHINESE CHESTNUTS ARE CALLED "SWEET CHESTNUTS" IN JAPANESE BECAUSE OF THEIR PARTICULAR FLAVOR.





A KOFUN  
STONE?

WHAT  
DID YOU  
THINK THE  
ROUND  
THING  
ON TOP  
WAS?

A  
ROCK  
...



HUH.  
SO  
THEY'RE  
CHEST-  
NUT.

IT  
WAS  
GOOD,  
AND I'VE  
BEEN A  
FAN EVER  
SINCE.

YEAH  
THIS ONE  
TIME,  
I WENT TO  
A KOFUN  
FAIR, AND  
THEY WERE  
SELLING  
KOFUN  
MONT  
BLANC.

WHAT  
?

YOU  
PICKED  
IT  
WITH-  
OUT  
KNOW-  
ING  
THAT  
?!



HUH  
...?



WILL  
YOU  
TAKE  
A LOOK  
AT IT,  
LILINA  
?

THIS IS  
WHAT IT  
LOOKED  
LIKE...

MAYBE IT  
WASN'T A  
ROUNDED-  
FRONT  
KOFUN  
BUT A  
SCALLOP-  
SHELL HILL  
KOFUN...

OH, YEAH!  
THE SQUARE  
PART OF  
THAT KOFUN  
MONT  
BLANC WAS  
ACTUALLY  
A LITTLE  
SMALL...

BABBLE

BABBLE

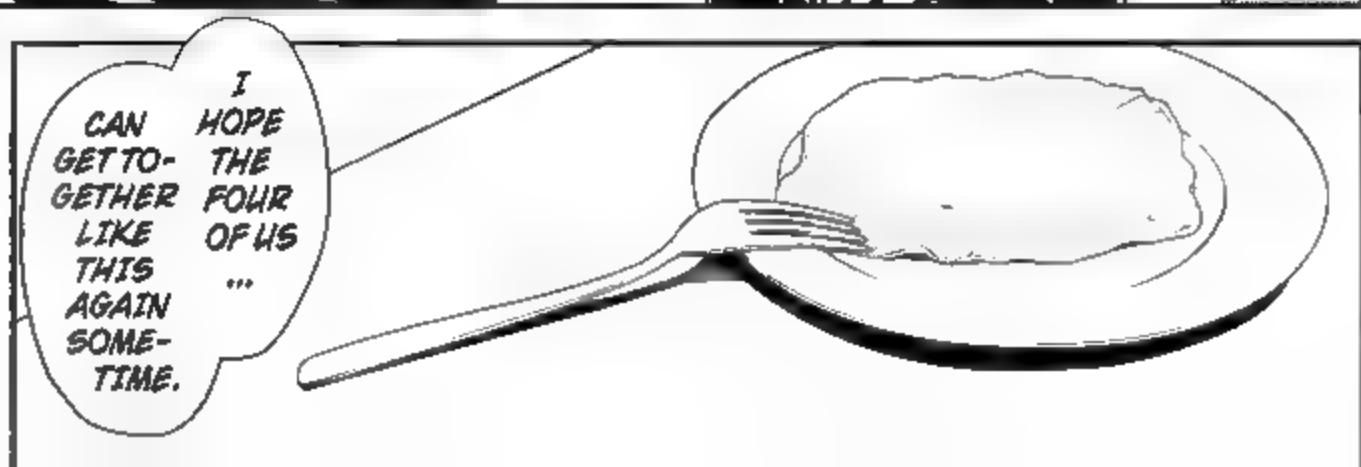


DRIP

DRIP







CAN  
GET TO-  
GETHER  
LIKE  
THIS  
AGAIN  
SOME-  
TIME.

I  
HOPE  
THE  
FOUR  
OF US  
...



**AND IF  
POSSIBLE,  
KEEP ON  
DOING  
IT...**

**ALWAYS.**











IS THAT  
FUTURE  
POSSIBLE  
FOR US?

WE  
PROBA-  
BLY EACH  
HAD OUR  
OWN  
OPIN-  
IONS ON  
THAT...



THE  
DESIRE  
TO HAVE  
...

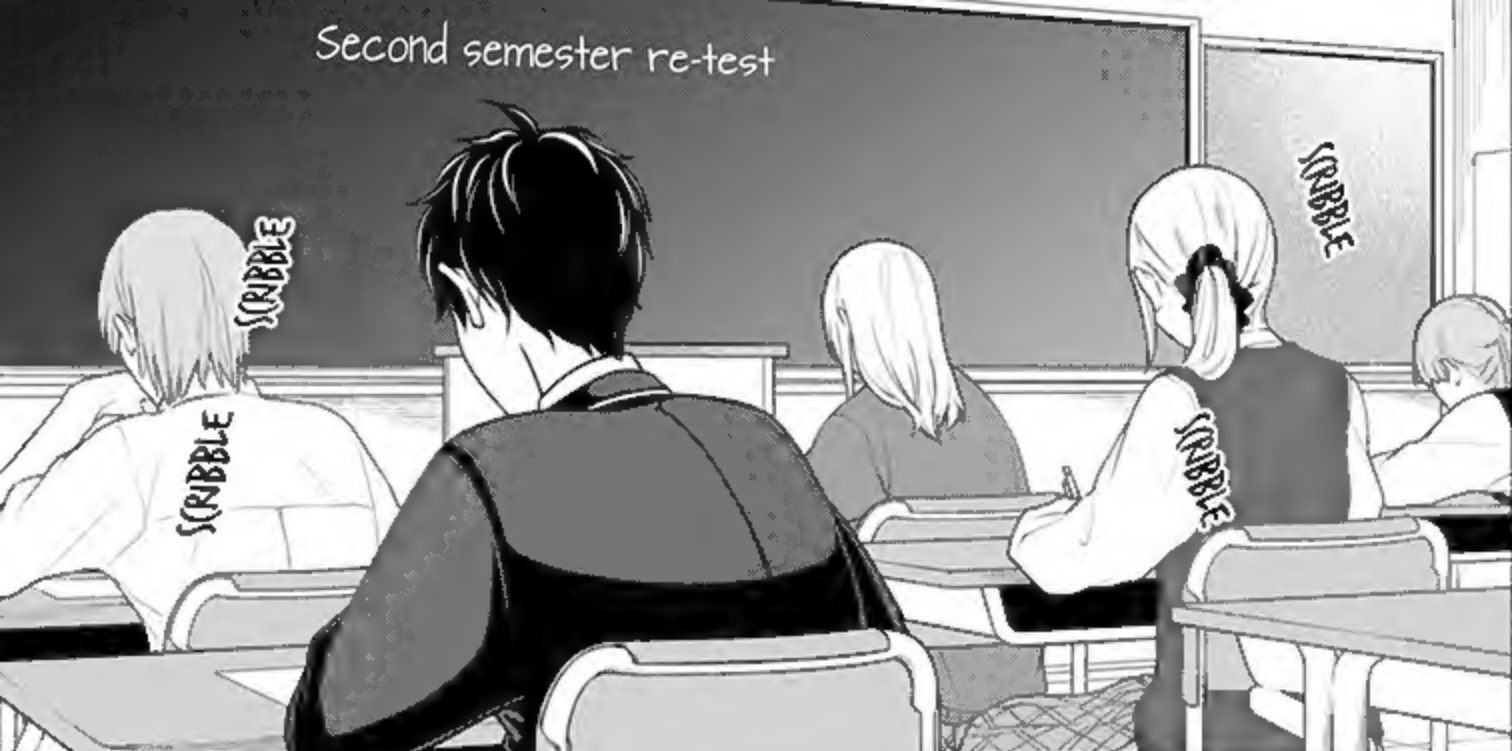
THAT  
WISH  
GRANTED.

BUT I  
THINK  
WE  
SHARED  
...

BEGIN!

Second semester re-test

Second semester re-test



NOW, THEY PRAY. NO MATTER WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS.



WHILE I  
SOMEHOW  
BARELY  
MANAGED  
TO SQUEAK  
BY.

THE  
NEXT DAY,  
TAKASAKI-  
SAN EASILY  
PASSED THE  
RE-TEST...

NEXT TIME: LILINA-PP!